

# Chaotic Times

Organised Chaos Newsletter

"Helping you to  
clear clutter and  
feel -

Better!"

Issue 30 - August 2011  
'Organised for school'

# Dear Friends of Organised Chaos

Welcome to the August edition of **Chaotic Times!**

Those of you expecting shoe storage - apologies, please hold on!  
Coming soon . . . .

This month, conscious that summer is rushing past at an alarming rate, I've decided to provide some tips for getting ready for the new school year.

I'm not a mother myself, but am full of admiration for mothers and all that they do. One role where organisation can mean the difference between sanity - and that other place!



So, for women who are busy juggling their children's social and school diaries - what could be better than a really good planner?

The '[Organised Mum](#)' range by Boxhouse are thoughtfully designed. For a start, they begin the year in September! Call them on 0845 644 7507 for more information or check out their website.

This planner comes with themed stickers to mark different types of event, has a clip on pen and a handy pocket for storing loose papers. There's space for up to 6 family members. This should help you keep tabs on where they all are!

Their magnetic organiser is currently out of stock, but the website promises a new design in September.

Take a look, it's listed under 'Family Organisers'. I think you'll agree this is a great visual aid to managing family activities and simple enough for younger children to get involved (with a bit of supervision)!



## Children's bedrooms - make it easy to be tidy!

If your child's bedroom floor is invisible beneath heaps of toys and books then clearly it's time for drastic action.

I don't see anything wrong with asking a child to tidy his or her room. Having said that, it must be a task which is easily achievable. If not, then it will soon become a bone of contention.

It might seem obvious, but provide adequate storage for all those toys and games. Clearly things can't be tidied away if there's not room to house everything. Be reasonable! If you find there's too many toys etc, then it's definitely time for you and your children to tackle some decluttering. Most kids are happy to part with outgrown toys and accept the process as part of growing up.



When purchasing storage solutions for children bear in mind ease of use for the child. In other words, nothing too fiddly or too tall for them to reach.

Otherwise, guess what? You'll end up having to clear up every single time. Brightly coloured storage will be more appealing to younger children.

The [IKEA Stuva range](#) (left), is designed to be flexible as children grow.

I stock a range of 'Really Useful Storage Boxes' and some sizes lend themselves to child friendly storage. The bigger boxes would be ideal for chunky toys, lego etc and the secure lid could be applied at bedtime!

There are also underbed boxes to make maximum use of wasted space. Ideal for storing boxed games.

Thoughts of many parents will be turning to ways to encourage their offspring to complete their school homework. This topic is a thorny one and is hardly likely to be high on your child's agenda (unless you're really lucky)!

Make sure there is a suitable table or desk they can access when needed. Provide a good bright light. You must make it *easy* for them to knuckle down to it.

I would suggest using colour coded folders for different subjects. This will minimise that nightmare scenario of not being able to find homework to hand in at school the next morning.



For primary school children who bring home only small amounts of paperwork consider a 'Really Useful' 4L "hobby" box. Kit them out with the necessary pens, rulers, rubbers and crayons and keep these safe in an "office" tray which sits on top of the box, below the lid. This saves valuable time hunting down the "right" pens etc.

Purchased separately, box is £4.75 and the tray £2.25. No mail order I'm afraid, collections/local deliveries only.

Well, I hope that's given you some ideas in plenty of time for that new school year. If you'd like advice on how to maximise storage for your children's school work or toys, then please get in touch!

*Best regards,  
Judith*

**t:** 01327 705294

**e:** [clutter@judithmorris.co.uk](mailto:clutter@judithmorris.co.uk)

**w:** [www.judithmorris.co.uk](http://www.judithmorris.co.uk)

**follow my blog on:** <http://clutter-free-mind.blogspot.com>

**Please note:** descriptions of products in this newsletter cannot be guaranteed as accurate, nor are they an endorsement of quality. Please check thoroughly before making any purchase. Any problems encountered as a result of purchase are not the responsibility of Organised Chaos or Judith Morris.

Should you wish to unsubscribe from this newsletter please follow this link - [www.judithmorris.co.uk/newsletters.php](http://www.judithmorris.co.uk/newsletters.php)