



# 'Fearless Education'



## Newsletter

21st January 2010

Dear Parents and Carers and Children,

The events in Haiti over the past week have been a shock to many of us in terms of how desperate some people's lives can become. We have talked a little to the children about this but will be addressing the issue through the School council in the next week. They will be leading our response as a school by seeking ideas and commitment from the children. If you have not already done so, please could you talk to your children about this issue to try and increase their understanding of it. So much of what we are trying to teach them is for responding to events such as these. I hope that as a school we are able to do something that truly helps those who are clearly much less fortunate than ourselves. Many thanks and best wishes.

David Forrester

### Parents Coffee Afternoons

In response to requests we have added another set of parents coffee afternoons. These will be taking place on Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> January at 1.30 pm in The Nest for all Key Stage 2 parents and on Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> February at 1.30 pm for Reception & Key Stage 1 parents.

Please put the date in your diary and make sure you send back the slip on the letter out today.

### What will be doing?

The idea is to make the sessions as interactive and focussed around your ideas. The aim is to make each session as relevant to the ages of your children as much as possible.

The KS2 session will be led by Mrs MacLeod and Mr Forrester and is focussed on E-safety. We are very aware as parents ourselves that this is not an easy issue. No – one has the absolute answer as each situation is unique. However sharing the information we have about the dangers and discussing with each other what problems AND solutions you are facing / have faced is extremely beneficial. We would hope then to use the session to compile a 'Parents guide to e-safety' that comes directly from you the parents. We want you to bring along your experience and any information you may have, to throw into the pot too. If you can make it please come along.

The Reception & KS1 parents meeting will be led by Mrs Smart and Mr Forrester and is themed around supporting home learning in Maths and Literacy. We will be looking at strategies and activities that work for calculating and learning phonics – both for reading and writing.

Again there will be input, discussions and a focus on compiling a home-learning 'crib sheet' that will support you in helping your child to make progress in these areas. As valid as anything we can offer will be the ideas that you yourselves have come up with as well as the difficulties it presents for you.

I really hope that you will be able to join us. The usual crèche facilities are available and there will be plenty of refreshment.

### Casual Catering Staff

Are you interested in being considered for casual catering staff (general kitchen assistant). Hourly rate is £6.28 working term time only. Please contact Elaine Witt on 01454 866824.



Well done to Falcons again. They're at it again!  
Is anyone going to challenge them?

### Crossing Patrol

South Gloucestershire are looking for people who would like to undertake training for the role of School Crossing Patrol. If you are interested, please contact them on 01454 863611

### E- Safety

We have been informed by a Y5 parent of concerns about the use of MSN by children. The difficulties seem to be based in how children share their address books with each other, exposing them to contact from people that they do not know. This can lead to a huge number of problems in a few clicks of a mouse. May I please emphasise the importance of supervising your child's activity on the internet and flag up the KS2 coffee afternoon session next Thursday when we will be going into this issue.

### Out of school facilities

We are very fortunate to have both a breakfast club and After school club on site that are available for all parents in support of your out of school child care needs. We are currently reviewing Breakfast Club provision in order to improve menu choices and activities that are available. These will be available from the beginning of next term. If you would like any information regarding these facilities please contact the office who will happily answer any questions you may have.

# PSA NEWS

## Curry and Quiz Night

You will have received your Curry/Quiz flyer last week - please order your tickets and come along - we can guarantee it will be a fun night.

## Parents Disco

Movies Mayhem Fancy Dress is booked for Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> March – please make a note in your diaries.

## Raffle Prizes

If you have any unwanted Christmas Presents please donate them to the PSA, so we can use them for PSA Raffles over the next few months.

*Thanks as always from Kate and the PSA*