



'Fearless Education'



Newsletter

22nd October 2009

Dear Parents and Carers and Children,

We are, amazingly, at the end of Term 1. Congratulations to our newest group in school, the children in Reception. They have joined us in school and have already shown themselves to have spirit and creativity. I hope that the weather holds on long enough for you all to have a great holiday and we will see you in Term 2 with our first major event - the PSA Fireworks evening on Saturday 7th November. It is always a well organised occasion and a fun time for the children so don't miss out!

David Forrester

Parent Coffee Afternoons

This year we will be running Parent Coffee Afternoons on the dates overleaf. They are an opportunity for parents and carers to come and talk about aspects of school in an informal setting. There will be cake and coffee (or tea if you prefer!) as well as the chance to share your thinking across the whole range of school activity. The sessions are broken up into Year groups so that we can keep them as relevant for you as possible. The theme for this next meeting in November is Curriculum Remodelling - An introduction to the ideas and ethos of what your child experiences in school. We will discuss where we are up to and would like to look at where we should be going - with your help! It would be wonderful if you could join us. There will be a crèche facility so if you are able to join us on these afternoons it would be great to see you. Please sign the slip on the reverse and send it in to ensure we are catering for the correct numbers by Monday 2nd November.

Wallace & Gromit!

As part of developing opportunities for children through our partnership with Mangotsfield Secondary School three children from Y5 went to London to visit the new Wallace and Gromit exhibition at the Science Museum. This is their report.

It was an early start for the day. The weather was cloudy and cold and the journey took about two hours. When we got to the Museum we saw all the



steam trains. We saw cars from different years including an upside down F1 car. The Wallace and Gromit exhibition was Wallace's house. There was an invention with big boots that stomped on their own. We got to make our own plasticine models. Grace tried to make one of Wallace and Gromit but failed! There was a couch with switches which moved a hand and changed the channel on the TV - a different sort of remote control.



Our Class of the Week is Wagtails.



Well done everyone!

There were models of Wallace and Gromit which were tiny but then used a big magnifier to make them look bigger. There were over 50 experiments in something called the launch pad. We saw the brain of Charles Babbage. Babbage was the first ever computer. This trip was organised by Mangotsfield



Secondary School and there were lots of year 8 children from Mangotsfield and lots of children from other schools. Thank you to Mangotsfield for letting us be part of the day. And a special big thank you to Mrs Ford for coming with us and looking after us. We really enjoyed our day. It was superdooper!

Grace Francis, Will Linton and Freya Child - Year 5.

Governors

Following our recent requests for two new parent governors, we would like to welcome Rob Pizii (Dad to William in Yr2 and Thomas in YrR) and Caroline Sheppard (Mum to Andrew in Y4) as the successful candidates.



Every week we have lots of shredded paper suitable for bedding for mice, hamsters, gerbils or guinea pigs.

If you have small animals come and take away some of our shredded paper for free.

Look on the notice board at the gate to see when it is available.

James Turley

Pucklechurch Environment Club

Advance Notice

Individual and family school photographs will be taking place on Monday, 9th November.

Blackbirds Class Assembly

This will be taking place at 10.35 tomorrow – 16th October. All parents/carers are welcome to attend.

Primary and Secondary Admissions

All applications for Primary and Secondary School entrance for September 2010 need to be sent to South Gloucestershire Council by NO LATER THAN 4.00pm on Friday, 23rd October. That's tomorrow!

Ballet/Tap Dancing

Lessons take place in the school hall on Thursday's.

If you are interested, please contact Kerri on 0117 958 5225 or 07812168304.

Ballet 4.00 – 4.45 **Tap** 4.45 - 5.30

PSA News

Gift Wrap

Thank you to everyone who has ordered Gift Wrap over the last couple of weeks - we have already raised over £80!. And if you have yet still to order, then please remember that all orders have to be in by tomorrow. Thanks again

Christmas Present Sale

This will be going ahead again this year - please keep an eye out for the order forms that will be sent out the first week after half term!

Have a lovely Half Term Holiday for all at the PSA

PSA Meeting

The next PSA Meeting will take place on Tuesday, 3rd November at 7.00 pm in the Staff Room. All welcome.

Community News

Remember the holiday club held in the Summer holidays?

Well, we are starting an exciting new **afterschool club** looking at the story of 'Meet the Robinsons'

Our theme this time will be 'keep moving forward' and each week we will be having loads of fun being creative using arts, crafts, games, songs and music to explore topics such as 'Who am I?' 'I have a future' etc.

Come and join us for 5 sessions every Wednesday at Pucklechurch School 5.00pm – 6.30pm.

Supper will be provided and the club is free.

Starting **November 11th 2009**

More details are attached as a PDF document to your newsletter. If you do not receive your newsletter by email then please pick up a leaflet from the office or from Rachel Goodchild. 01173039190

St Thomas a Becket welcomes all to the Church and over the autumn there are several events in which families can participate. We would love to see you at one or more of these events if you can make it.

Saturday 31st October – 6-8pm – There are still some places available at the Light Party! Parents can leave children with us but please ring Julie Gardner IN ADVANCE on 0117 3706514 to book a place. Children can dress up if they like (but no ghouls, ghosts or witches please – this is a Light Party!), take part in games, find out why we call this a Light Party and eat all your favourite cold snacks! Hand the consent form to Julie, Chris or Hilary with your phone number, so we can contact you if your child needs you! See you there.

Sunday 8th November – 10.00am said Communion, 10.45 Remembrance Service - Remembrance Sunday - Remember those who have died in past wars and those who have lost their lives recently, especially in Afghanistan and Iraq. Forces families based in Emerson's Green are very welcome, including those with children at the school in Pucklechurch. Uniformed organisations present as usual (if you are a Brownie, Guide, Cub or Scout etc – this is you!).

Parents Coffee Afternoons

The sessions all run from 1.30 – 3.00pm dates are as follows :

Rec - 6.11.09 Y1/2 - 9.11.09 Y3/4 - 13.11.09 Y5/6 - 16.11.09

I / we will be able to join you on the ____ November for the Y ____ session looking at Curriculum Remodelling.

Name of child _____ Class _____

I will require ____ spaces in the crèche

Name of child/ ren _____ Age/s _____

Name: Signed