



'Fearless Education'



Newsletter

28th January 2010

Dear Parents and Carers and Children,

Thank you to those parents who were able to attend the coffee afternoon today. We really do hope to build these up as a way of including you in your children's education and the life of school in general. It would therefore be really helpful to us to know what topics you are interested in talking about, developing our approaches on, or sharing your knowledge of with other parents. We will be sending out a form next week for you to complete so that we can draw up a series of sessions to address your interests. I would be really grateful if you could return this to us. It makes it so much more valuable if we know the focus we have set up is of specific interest to you as well as parents rather than just us as a school.

David Forrester

Film Club Review

Last week we watched a Japanese animated film called
SPIRITED AWAY.

Ben, Rodi and Holly really enjoyed this film. Here are their reviews.

'It has a lot of action and adventure and amazing animations. I loved the bit when the hero discovered his true name.'

'It was interesting to see a film from another country. The girl was brave... she was frightened but she kept going.'

'I liked the bit when the hero was a dragon flying over the sea. Miyazaki draws really cute dragons!'

There are monsters, dragons and flying birds made from paper. That's all we're giving away – you should watch this film!

Parking

I was particularly concerned last Friday when I came out to see the issues regarding parking along Castle Road. Cars were parked in a way that made it impossible for the Coach coming back from swimming to get through to drop children off. In addition there was something like fifteen cars that had parked in Lansdown Rd, making it impossible for residents themselves to even get to their homes. Some cars had even parked across driveways – presumably thinking they wouldn't be long. We get regular complaints from residents in Lansdown Rd and I can quite see why. Please be aware also of the need to supervise young children across Lansdown Road, there is traffic passing in and out all the time and at school times the end of this junction can often be unsighted. The majority of reasons for parking so close to school are about convenience and whilst I understand the issues of daily life I am asking parents to be far more considerate to the safety of all children and the needs of our neighbours. Please be aware that our new Community police officer will be visiting to see what the issues are and will give tickets to any car that is parked illegally.

In addition, can I remind parents/carers that the car park is for staff and visitors ONLY. Please do not use the car park when dropping off and picking up your children. If you arrange for someone else to pick up your child, please advise them of this.



Blackbirds managed to topple the Falcons off the top perch this week. Congratulations.

NOTICE BOARD

There will not be a guitar lesson on Monday, 8th February 2010.

Kestrels Class Assembly will be taking place on Friday, 5th February at 9.05 am. Please note the new time. All parents/carers welcome.

'Running up that hill'

Throughout 2010, I will be running 6 half marathons in aid of the Breast Cancer Campaign beginning on 7th March with Bath Half Marathon. If you wish to offer your support by sponsoring me, there will be a sponsor form at the reception. A note will go in the newsletter to let you know when money needs to be collected and how much is raised.

Thanks for your support,
Gemma (Miss Cummins, Year 5 teacher)



PSA News

Curry and Quiz Night

Thank you to everyone who has already bought Quiz/Curry Tickets - they are still available from the School Office or Mike Walkers Newsagent, please note that we will not be selling tickets on the night as we need to know numbers before hand for the Curry.

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who attended the Christmas Meal in the Star! Sarah Frankcom and her team raised £340 for the PSA, so thank you very much to them for all their hard work - it really paid off!

Invitation Books

You should by now have received your copy of the 2010 Invitation fundraiser book. If you have not received a copy and would like one please call into the office with payment of £22.99 as Mrs Brown has spare copies.

Please could all payment or unwanted books be returned as soon as possible.

Any queries please call Sarah Hedges on 9372148

Community News

Fund Raising

We are planning to swim a mile to raise money for the relief effort in Haiti. The money raised will go to Christian Aid who are already an established charity working in Haiti. They will be targeting areas that are getting little help from other agencies.

Please sponsor us as we need your support to raise this urgently needed money. You can donate securely and quickly online at: www.justgiving.com/swimming4haiti.

Alternatively our sponsor forms are available at the school office window. If you are a UK tax payer please tick the gift-aid box so that 28p can be reclaimed for every £1 you give.

Many thanks Kerry Prior & Debbie Woods

"St Thomas a Becket Church welcomes everyone to all services and activities. Here is a list of our regular activities and some of the special events and festivals over the coming months. Do feel free to come along or if you would like to find out more, ask Chris Moore (Rebecca's Mum in Yr 4) or Julie Gardner (Hannah's Mum in Yr 3) or ring Stuart Young (our vicar) on 0117 937 2260.

Weekly events:

Last three Sundays of the month at 10.00am: Communion (you do not have to take communion!) with organ and choir and Junior Church (Sunday School) for 4-11 year olds, run by CRB checked adults – babies welcome – there are toys at the back of Church for toddlers

First Sunday of the month 10.00am: Family service/All age worship with Kevin on guitar. The Junior Church share what they have been learning with the congregation.

Normally every final Sunday of the month: Youth Group at the Vicarage for Yr 6 children upwards – fun and games and the chance to ask questions about Christianity 6.00-8.00pm. Ring the vicarage to find out more on: 937 2260 or just turn up. Next one is likely to be near Pancake Day (16th Feb)

Every Thursday evening – 7.30-8.00pm – the Church is open and available for prayer – quiet music, a Bible reading to inspire reflection and private or shared prayer, as wished – with James Gardner.

Every Friday 7.00-8.00pm – Choir practice in Church – we are a friendly bunch and enjoy singing traditional and modern hymns – come along and give us a try! You don't need to attend Church every Sunday when you join!

Special Events/Festivals

Ash Wednesday. February 17th. 10.30 am Service in the Homefield centre followed by refreshments.

7.30 pm communion service in church

Lent Course (For adults and older teenagers who would like to find out more about the Christian faith: Lent is the Church season of 40 days in the run up to Easter. Jesus went into the wilderness for 40 days to decide what sort of a ministry He would lead. Christians use His example of a 40 day period to reflect on what sort of lives we lead now and how Jesus' example can inspire our lives today. The course this year, run by Stuart, will be based on Gordon Giles's book on food associated with the Bible. (For example, Jesus is described as the "Bread of Life" – what does this mean for us today?). It is to be held on the following dates, all at 7.30 pm in the vicarage (near Hero's hairdressers on Westerleigh Road). Come along to as many as you can manage.

Wednesday 24th February / Thursday 4th March / Wednesday 17th March / Thursday 1st April

Dates for your diary:

Mothering Sunday 14th March 10.00 am.

Palm Sunday 28th March 10.00 am

Good Friday 2nd April 10.00 am and 2.00 pm

Easter Day April 4th 10.00 am

Scarecrow Competition May 2nd/3rd

We look forward to seeing you.