



# 'Fearless Education'



# Newsletter

4<sup>th</sup> February 2010



Dear Parents and Carers and Children,

It is events such as those in Haiti that cause us to consider our own lives by reflecting on how fortunate we are and most importantly what we can do for others in need. The School Council have been considering this issue and have decided that they would like to do something to help the unfortunate victims of the Earthquake. It is all the stronger for coming from them and I hope that everyone feels able to support their efforts in some way next Tuesday.

David Forrester

## Haiti earthquake Appeal

On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February, to raise money to help the survivors of the Haiti earthquake, the school council have decided that we will take part in a whole school 'pyjama party' which will involve hot chocolate and a biscuit at breaktime in the hall. Please indicate on the reply slip whether your child will be having this – It's 50p for biscuit, hot chocolate or both. We want to make as much money as possible, so please don't forget your slip. It will tell us how much we need to make. There will also be a 'bedtime' story during assembly time and most importantly you need to pay £1 for the right to wear your pyjamas to school. We will all still be playing outside during break and lunch so if children choose to wear slippers, they still need an outdoor pair of shoes!

Thanks, School Council

## Values

Travis has been awarded a certificate this week for demonstrating our School values in practice by showing respect to an adult and awareness of the playground rules. Congratulations to him for giving others the example of how we want people to be in our school.

## KS2 Performance

As part of giving children a chance to try new skills that might also become part of our Summer KS2 performance, there will be after-school sessions focussed on developing a number of talents. These will be taking place in the first three weeks of next term and you will need to sign up for them. They are open to any KS2 child. There will also be spaces for parents and teachers who would like a go. The sessions will be run by performers from the NGM group in Thornbury and are intended as an opportunity to have some real fun. There will be sessions on Streetdance, Beatbox and 'DJ'ing. The details are being finalised but a letter with sign up slip will be coming out next week. Please get your slips back as soon as possible to avoid disappointment!

## Parents Evenings

Letters for these will come out at the beginning of the term but please be aware that there are some changes to the dates for these meetings. We have extended the meeting times in order that parents have sufficient time to talk to teachers about the significant aspects of their child's learning. The dates are as follows:

Rec / Y1/ Y2 – 23<sup>rd</sup> March (pm) / 24<sup>th</sup> March (eve)

Y3 & Y4 – 25<sup>th</sup> March (eve) / 26<sup>th</sup> March (pm)

Y5 & Y6 – 24<sup>th</sup> March (pm) / 25<sup>th</sup> March (eve)

\* please note that Mrs Spencer will be available to parents on the 24<sup>th</sup> March only.



Blackbirds are top dogs again this week well done. Is anyone going to challenge them next week?

## Notice Board

- There will not be a guitar lesson on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2010.
- Kestrels Class Assembly will be taking place tomorrow Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> February at 9.05 am. Please note the new time. All parents/carers welcome.
- Year 4 will be swimming every day next week. Can you please ensure your child brings their swimming kit every day. Thank you.

## Girlguiding UK

Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2010 is a special date for guiding members as it is World Thinking Day, an annual event

around the guiding and its and young would like as



where members world celebrating impact on girls women. We many Rainbows,

Brownies and Guides to wear their uniform to school on that day and would welcome any children who would like to talk about their experiences with this great organisation during Assembly. Please see Mrs Ford by next Wednesday if you would like to speak in Assembly.

## Hot Chocolate and Biscuit!

I would like my child to receive hot chocolate and biscuit on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> February in aid of the Haiti Earthquake appeal and attach 50p.

Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

### So close! So near!

A huge well done to all of the Yr 3/4 footballers who played last Thursday afternoon and came a victorious second. Our goal scorers were Owen (3), Sam (1) and Jamie (1). In every match all of the boys showed great skill and team spirit. I'd like to say a huge thank you to the parents who supported the matches and to Greg Wardle for taking and organising our team.

Keep up the fantastic training team, it's really paying off!

## PSA News

### Curry & Quiz Night

Thank you to everyone who has bought tickets for the Curry and Quiz Night on Saturday - look forward to seeing you all there.

Big apologies to those who have visited the Office over the last couple of days to try and buy tickets, but unfortunately we are already at maximum capacity in the Hall! We will have to use a bigger venue next time!

### Parents Fancy Dress Disco

is booked for Saturday March 13th so to avoid disappointment please order your tickets as soon as the forms come out after Half Term.

### URGENT REMINDER REGARDING RETURN OF INVITATION FUNDRAISER BOOKS

Thank you to everyone who has returned payment or their books however there are still 65 books out-standing. If we do not receive payment or the unwanted books *urgently* it will seriously affect the funds we raise for the school. (May we remind you all Invitation Books have traceable security codes).

We understand that some of you do not want to receive these books and have thrown them away. If you do not want to receive them in the future, could you please inform the office ready for next year. We do not want to force people to buy something they don't want but to give you an opportunity to enjoy the benefits of the wonderful discounts you can receive as well as raising money for your children to enjoy the benefits.

## 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](http://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 (16<sup>th</sup> 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!

We look forward to seeing you.