

Newsletter

5th November 2009

Dear Parents and Carers and Children,

I hope you had a fantastic break, enjoying the last of the extended Summer. It's amazing how quickly things change and we're right back on track with the seasonal weather now. In some ways that is just what we need because a Fireworks party is never the same without a hat, scarf and gloves. As usual Darren and Sarah Packer have put a huge amount of time and effort into organising the event. If you still need to buy your ticket then hurry up. If you're already sorted we'll see you on Saturday. If you are attending other bonfire parties or events, tonight or over the weekend, then please do take care and have a great time.

David Forrester

Wagtails have done it again!!
Is anyone going to challenge them next week?



Outdoor Clothing

The weather has finally turned and the lovely sunny days of half term have gone. Please ensure your child comes to school in appropriate outdoor wear which may include hats and gloves as the days get colder. If you are happy for your child to go on the grassed area or play sports during break times, they must have a complete change of clothes.

On Thursday, 29th October 2009, 1st Pucklechurch Brownies went on the coach to London to see our photo's in the exhibition for Girl Guiding and UK plan. Before that we went to Buckingham Palace. We actually got to see the Queen because the Commonwealth Games torch was being handed over to India.



We also went to Trafalgar Square and climbed on the monument. Afterwards we went to the exhibition where we were presented with third prize. It was a camera that we can all use at Brownies.

By Hannah Gardner and Chloe Rawlins

Parent Coffee Afternoons

Thankyou to those of you who have replied for the Parent Coffee Afternoons. We start with Reception tomorrow and Y1/2 parents on Monday. They are an opportunity for parents and carers to come and talk about aspects of school in an informal setting. 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! If you would like to join us you can still sign up in the office. There is a crèche facility that you can sign up for too.

Fireworks Display

Don't forget that the Pucklechurch School Association annual fireworks display takes place this Saturday at Marsh Farm, Feltham Road. Tickets are available from Mike Walkers or on the door. Gates open at 5.00pm. Fireworks start at 5.45 pm. We would like to say a huge thank you to Ashfield Prison who have kindly donated £300 towards the event.

'Cook- Who' ?

We are very pleased to welcome Mrs Cathy Orchard as our new permanent cook to take over from Molly. Cathy has been covering the post during Molly's illness, she has already established a super relationship with the children and staff which has put her in a good position to really take up the reins. Congratulations to her and we very much look forward to working with her over the coming years.

Communications

As you are aware, for some time now we have been trying to implement the use of electronic communication more and more. We still have a lot of families who receive their newsletter via paper and we would like to reduce this number still further. In addition to this, from 18th November – 18th December we will be trialling a text messaging service. This will be used to inform you of things such as clubs that may be cancelled, keeping you up to date on situations regarding trips or reminders of important events. It is imperative therefore that we have up to date mobile numbers for you so, if you have changed your number recently, please let the office know as soon as possible.

We will be sending further information in a separate letter shortly. In the meantime, please help us to help the environment by signing up for electronic newsletters by emailing kim.brown@southglos.gov.uk to let Mrs Brown know that you wish to be added to the system.

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

PSA News

EXCITING NEWS FROM THE PSA! We are re-launching our fundraising webshop. When shopping online you can access over 100 leading retailers including Amazon, play.com, Marks & Spencers, Next, Waterstones using our webshop. Every time you use our webshop to go to a retailer's web site and subsequently buy something, you'll automatically earn money for the school!

You don't pay anything extra using our webshop, so please try to use it whenever you can and *take advantage of it when ordering Christmas presents*. Thank you!

You will find our webshop at buy.at/PSA. Please bookmark this link for future use.

A note will be coming home with your child shortly providing full details of the webshop however if you require further information on this please call Sarah Hedges on 0117 9372148.

FIREWORKS NIGHT!

Thank you to everyone who has bought tickets through the School - Tickets are still on Sale at Mike Walkers Newsagents.

The wind direction on Saturday is looking favourable from the South West, so hopefully we won't have issues similar to last year. We can decide on the night if it is safe for people to come and go whilst the Display is on, as the last thing we want is people walking where the fireworks are coming down with the wind. Please remember there are no parking facilities at the Farm. We look forward to seeing you all there, eating your burgers, drinking your hot coffee and wearing your luminous glasses whilst watching the display!!

Christmas Present Sale

You will have received a letter this week for the Christmas Present Sale. Please read the instructions carefully and get your payment back in time to avoid disappointment.

FoneRecycling

Please look out for this exciting new way of raising funds to help the school with Scrapstore resources. Details to follow shortly but in the meantime, dig out your old phones and get ready to bring them into school for recycling. Let your friends and family know too.

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

Art Express

We are holding another **Make and Take** this year in the Scout hut. Children will have the opportunity to make good quality Christmas presents using all sorts of art and craft materials. Open to all primary ages.

The date - 28th November

The time - 9.30am – 12.00pm

The Venue - Pucklechurch Scout Hut.

The cost - £10 per child for materials, hire costs and expenses.

Parents could use this time for Christmas Shopping.

If you are interested then please contact Rachel Goodchild on 01173039190 and I will give you a booking form.

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.

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!).

Saturday 14th November-2.00pm Autumn Fayre at the Community Centre. Lots of stalls selling gifts, crafts, cards, refreshments, raffle and much more. Please come along and show your support.

The Scout Group are holding a cake sale in the Scout Hut after the Remembrance Service this Sunday. Tea and coffee also available and all proceeds will be given to the Poppy Appeal.

Notice Board!

School Photographs

Individual and family school photographs will be taking place on Monday, 9th November. If you wish to have photographs taken with younger siblings, please come along at 8.30 am.

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