



# 'Fearless Education'

## Newsletter



17th November 2011

Dear Parents, Carers and children,

Well we had a fantastic Fireworks event on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November. The organisation was first class and the display 'lit up the sky'. I would like to thank Mr Simpson, who always kindly allows us to use the field and of course all the many parent volunteers who gave up their time. The collecting of money, making and selling of food and drink, stewarding and running of all the electrics made the whole show run very fluently. Congratulations to Richard, Jamie, Kelly and Gary, Pete and the team for leading a great display and ensuring a super evening for all. Also one last big thank you to Darren Packer for ensuring a smooth handover, after many years of success. Now you really can have a rest next year Darren! Have a great weekend – apparently quite mild so enjoy!

*David Forrester*

### Pucklechurch 100

As part of our Pucklechurch project, some children from Kingfishers' class had a lovely time last week working with Mrs Smith and Mrs Stone to research the Twinning of Pucklechurch with Pringy in France. The children use their enquiry skills to ask questions about the different objects linked to twinning, including flags and signs. The children recorded their research and will be adding it to our '*Pucklechurch in 100 objects*' website, which will be created with Bath Spa University. Darcy and Megan said "We learnt about how the Twinning association started, 25 years back. We thought it was amazing seeing the objects and learning about Pringy!"

**We are still in need of many more objects to research** so if you want to share anything, however small, stories or photos for instance, come in or drop them in for us to research. Please speak to Miss Fitzgerald or leave a number with the office and she will give you a ring. Thank you.



### Rebuild Part 2

Many of you will have seen that even though Part 1 is complete and Part 2 has been put on hold, the front of school still looks like a building site. Unfortunately, whilst Part 2 remains to be negotiated the Local Authority have decided that the hoarding for the front compound, access road to KS2 and the contractor's car park should remain. This is largely down to avoiding unnecessary costs which we would agree with. If the situation is delayed significantly however, we will be requesting that these are replaced with something that is less of an eyesore.

### Children in Need

Appeals for Children in Need got off to an early start last week with an absolutely tremendous effort from Megan and her friend Martine:

'On Saturday it was the PSA Bonfire Night. The fireworks were amazing and the finale was even better. Me and my neighbour ran a stall there, it was a cake stall for Children in Need. We also held two raffles and Mrs M Rees and Phillipa Ford won. Their prizes were a Pudsey Bear Coin Box with £2 in it. Both of these events together raised £90 for Children in Need and added with the previous raised amount of £100 we will be sending £190. By Megan

The time, creativity and effort put in by the girls was really inspiring to see and they should be very proud of their contribution to such an important cause.

Congratulations to both of you!



### Attendance

You will have seen that the levels of attendance we reach at school were considered 'outstanding' by Ofsted. As part of our strategies to support all families in maintaining this, we monitor attendance termly. We then send out letters to parents of all children who fall within specific attendance criteria. We see this process as collaborative. The aim at all times is to support parents and carers in making sure that their children get the most from school by keeping absences and late arrivals to an absolute minimum. Anything that we can do to enable this will be considered by school. If you are having any particular problems with getting your child into school and on time and would like some advice or help with the situation you don't have to wait for a letter. Please come and see me and we can discuss what can be done.

### Acorn Alsorts Club

**The After School Club would like to build up its collection of Lego. If you have any that you no longer have use for and want to find a good home for it, we would be very grateful to receive it!**

**Many thanks.**

### Disability

Please would all parents and carers take note of the letter that you should have received yesterday. We need to have information for all children, whether they are disabled or not and therefore need everyone to return the form.

### Strike Action

You will probably be aware that there is a potential strike on 30<sup>th</sup> November that becomes more and more likely as we get closer to it. I hope to have some definite news for parents and carers about how we will be responding to the issue by next Wednesday at the latest.

## Values Certificates

We have awarded certificates this week to **Megan** for her **Creativity** and **Compassion** demonstrated by her Children in Need work (we also gave an 'honorary' one to Martine!). **Georgia** has received one for a tremendous poem she wrote at home about 'Life', that showed great **Creativity** and **Respect** for the the biggest gift of all.

# PSA News

## Bonfire Night

This year's Pucklechurch Guy Fawkes night was a complete success and raised just over £1,500 for the school! Megan Aze and Martine Messenger also raised £90 on the night to add to their growing Pudsey Bear collection of £190!!! We had perfect weather and the beautiful back drop of an almost full moon.



Well done to Guy from the Reception class for winning the 'make a mask for the guy'. It was brilliant to see the marshalls carry our Guy Fawkes through the crowd and then throw him onto the bonfire!

We would like to thank EVERYONE involved with the organisation and for making it such a great success. In particular Chris Simpson for the use of his field, Kelly & Gary Brown, Pete Barry, Jamie Todd, Richard Ford and our main sponsor Serco.



## Can you help!

If your company has any fundraising initiatives or charitable funds the PSA could benefit from eg. £1 for £1 fundraising matching please let us know as we have set ourselves some tough targets this year and would welcome all the help we can get!

We will soon be asking for volunteers to assist with our forthcoming seasonal activities such as serving refreshments at the nativity, assisting with the Christmas Fayre to name but a few. If you have any time and would be able to assist us in anyway please contact us as soon as you can.

# Community News

## Pucklechurch Under 9's Football Team-

The Pucklechurch Under 9's Football Team requires year 4 boys and girls to join team playing in Hanham Minor League Division. Please contact Kevin Dobson on 07775 806735 or e-mail [kevindobson60@gmail.com](mailto:kevindobson60@gmail.com)

## Dance Exercise

Get fit and learn some dance moves like the Cha Cha Cha-Tango, Salsa and Jive. Session held on Tuesday evening 8.30-9.15 at Frampton Cotterell C of E School, Rectory Road, BS36 2BT. Price £4.50. Contact Belinda Orford Fellow-IDTA, Tel 01454 415346 or e-mail [peter.orford@talktalk.net](mailto:peter.orford@talktalk.net)

## Please sponsor me!

I am the mother of Oliver in Reception and on the 26th November I will be walking 20 miles in fancy dress for the Bristol Christmas Stomp.

We are walking to raise as much as we can for a local charity called The Jessie May Trust who provide care at home for children and babies with life limiting conditions.

If you would like to sponsor us please visit [www.justgiving.com/Theo-Cameron](http://www.justgiving.com/Theo-Cameron) or pop along to the school office where you will find a sponsor form.

Thanks very much. Susie Wilcox

## St Thomas a Becket

All are welcome to join our weekly service on Sunday mornings 10.00 - 11.00 am. Children have their own activities during the service. In addition we hold Junior and Youth church twice a month.

Below are some of the activities that are taking place this term:

- 20<sup>th</sup> November - Youth led church Service 10.00 am
- 27<sup>th</sup> November - Advent Carol Service 6.30 pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> December - WI Group Carol Concert 7.30 pm
- 6<sup>th</sup> December - St George Singers Christmas Concert 7.30 pm Tickets £6.00
- 18<sup>th</sup> December - Carols by candlelight 6.30 pm
- 24<sup>th</sup> December - Christingle Service 4.00 pm
- 24<sup>th</sup> December - Midnight Communion 11.30 pm
- Christmas Day - Family Communion 10.00 am

## Hanham Abbots Junior School (1936 - 2011)



Are you a former pupil or teacher at Hanham Abbots Junior School, Creswicke Avenue, Hanham, Bristol, BS15 3PN? Are you interested in Hanham history? If yes, then you are invited to help us celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Hanham Abbots Junior School on Thursday the 1st December 3:30pm - 7:00pm.

We will be holding an open school event with an exhibition of photographs and current pupils work. Come along for a wander through the schools' history whilst enjoying a cup of tea and a slice of cake, reminiscing about PE on the field with Mr Summerhayes and all the marvellous school plays with Mrs Jefferies, plus who can forget the outdoor school pool and the infamous fires!