



'Fearless Education'



Newsletter



3rd November 2011

Dear Parents, Carers and children,

Welcome back! We are looking forward to a new term and, eventually, a new stage in the development of the school building and environment that we all want for the children. The Value for Life we will be discussing this term is 'Peace'. Our SEAL theme is Getting on and Falling out. They are particularly relevant to Remembrance Day which we will be observing next week and to the message of Christmas which will be upon us in four weeks time. Our discussions will also consider how the school values and the children's daily practise of them supports these values. Please talk to your children about these themes. As always we will be discussing them in assembly and in the classroom. We are hoping for great weather on Saturday in support of the PSA Fireworks Evening. They have worked extremely hard to put on a great event and I look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible. Best wishes for a super term.

David Forrester

Ch- ch- ch- ch- changes

Some of you may have noticed that we are very close to the full handover of Part 1 of the rebuild. Another point for real celebration. The impact this has had on every member of the school community has been significant. I would like to thank you in particular for dealing with the disruption so far in a positive spirit. We are moving closer to our final goal of a school really fit for all of the children. The next step is whether Part 2 will take place. At this point we still don't know and the 'discussions' may mean we won't find out what to expect for at least another two months. We will keep you updated as much as we are able.

Posts in playground

As part of the landscaping you will see that we have had posts installed on the top playground. These are for children to play on at breaktimes. Please can I ask all parents to ensure their children are not playing on / climbing up the posts before and after school. They are not there for climbing and there is no supervision in place at these times to ensure children's safety.

Pucklechurch 100 starts again next week. All through the week we want parents, grandparents, friends to bring in images, artefacts or just stories that you think say something about Pucklechurch. If you have anything you want to share please contact Miss Fitzgerald.

A child dropped an envelope with £10 in yesterday. The envelope was found but the money was gone. If your child has come home with a n unexpected amount of cash could you please speak to them and if possible contact their class teacher, the office or Mrs Smith. The focus is not on punishing anyone rather the recovery of what is a large amount of money for a rightly upset parent. Many thanks

Parent Coffee Sessions

We will be holding a coffee session for parents of all children in Reception and KS1 on Wednesday, 9th November at 1.45 pm. This will take place in the parents room. These sessions will be an opporutnity to meet with Mrs Becky Smith who is the parentlink worker and give you a chance to meet other parents as well as for us to answer any questions you may have. We look forward to seeing you.

Ofsted

We sent home a letter regarding the Ofsted Report yesterday. If you did not receive this for any reason, please visit the (new!) office and they will give you a copy.

Winter warmers

With the new term comes the change in the weather that means children really need to have the right clothing. Please make sure your child has a warm coat. All children will be expected to wear one as the weather deteriorates. Children without one will not be allowed out to play. If children are going to be playing on the field they must have a change of clothes and footwear. It is now becoming too muddy and is affecting children's uniform which we appreciate creates extra washing!

Dates for the diary

Friday, 4th – Individual school photographs
Saturday, 5th November – Fireworks display
Wednesday, 9th November – R & KS1 Parents coffee time
Thursday, 24th November – Full Governing Body
Tuesday, 15th November – PSA meetings
Thursday, 1st December – PSA Christmas Tree decorations
Friday, 2nd December – PSA Christmas Tree decorations

The Christmas festivities will soon be upon us and over the next two weeks you will be receiving letters regarding the Christmas Nativity for R & KS1 as well as requests for Christmas lunches. Please look out for these letters and get them back to us as soon as possible to help with the smooth operation of what is always a busy time of the year.

Christingle

Reception and KS1 children will all be given the opportunity to make Christingles this year during the lead up to the Christmas festivities. We would be grateful for parent helpers to come along and work in small groups with the children. This exciting activity will take place on the afternoon of Wednesday, 7th December at 1.30 pm. If you are able to help, could you please leave a message with the office for Mrs Smith or speak to one of the class teachers. Many thanks.

PSA News

A big well done to all of the pupils, staff and management at the school from the PSA for a GOOD ofsted report. It makes us proud to hear that you are all doing so well!

Abbe Hooper

On behalf of the PSA.

PSA Meetings

The next PSA meeting will be Tuesday 15th November at 9:15am in the Parents Lounge and 7:30pm at the Star. Everybody welcome. Please note that the agenda will consist of Chair comments, treasurer update and fundraising projects/updates including Christmas events. If you traditionally organise or assist with any events during this season please try to attend or update us prior to the meeting. Many thanks Abbe (07920 553526).

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.

Mexican Evening

Huge thanks to everyone that managed to attend the Mexican evening. It was a night full of fun and everyone had a great time, we managed to raise a fabulous £199.50 so thank you to you all. Special thanks to Sara Harty for organising and assisting me with all the arrangements, Kelly Brown and Sheila for the fab food and Jamie Todd for the amazing bar! We hope to see you all at the Valentines Ball on 11th Feb!

Firework tickets that were ordered through school have all been sent home with your child. You are still able to get tickets at the discounted price through Mike Walker newsagents in Pucklechurch. Full price tickets will be available on the gate. Gates open at 5.00 pm and fireworks start at 5.45 pm.

We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

Community News

Dizzy Designs –Thursday, 10th November

Debbie Woods will once again be holding a Dizzy Designs sale on Thursday in the school hall from the end of school until 4.00 pm. Come along and start that Christmas shopping early.

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

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

Calling all Parents

Not far away now. I am running the Chipping Sodbury Slog on November 13th. I have been training hard and I will complete the race!

If anyone is interested in sponsoring me then please could you fill out the sponsor form that will be placed in the office? Alternatively you can phone me on 01173039190. I appreciate your support and thank you!

Kind regards

Rachel Goodchild

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:

- 12th November – Autumn Fair 2pm at the Community Centre
- 13th November – Remembrance Service with uniformed organisations (Brownies, Scouts, Guides, etc)
- 20th November – Youth led church Service 10.00 am
- 27th November – Advent Carol Service 6.30 pm

The Light Party at Church on 20th October proved to be a great success. Roly Bain (clown and vicar) kept the 60 children enthralled for over an hour as he spun plates, squirted water and balanced on a low wire whilst explaining the Christmas story and what faith is like in the modern world! This was followed by a picnic and party games and everyone went home with a light stick. I am only sorry we could not host more children this time. We had over 97 children who wanted to attend (far more than anticipated) and so I am sorry if many of you were disappointed. To make up for it, I have put all the names of the children who couldn't come this time on a "priority list" for the next Light Party or Roly Bain event next year. We hope you will all be able to make it then. There were some particularly lovely moments as children gasped in awe, shrieked with delight and exhibited great kindness to each other and Roly. Well done children, it was lovely to have you with us for the afternoon. Kind regards, Julie Gardner (on behalf of St Thomas a Beckett Church).

Pucklechurch Heartstart - Heart beat Ball 11.11.11

Tickets are now available for the above event being that is being held at the Community Centre on Friday 11th November, doors open 7.30pm. Tickets are £5 each and available from myself or Mike Walkers, Newsagents.

There will be a bar for the evening and we are hoping to raise £1,111.11 through the sale of tickets and raffle. So please come and join us and support this evening.

Money raised will be put towards Defibrillator no 3 as we have now raised enough money for the Defibrillator number 2 to be placed at Pucklechurch Sports and Social Club.