

Newsletter



Issue 16 – weeks 28 & 29

28 April 2010

Dear Parents

The children have benefitted greatly from the enrichment activities organized recently. Last week the Puzzle Challenge Day encouraged lateral thinking and team work across all ages from Reception upwards. We have placed an order for a whole range of puzzle resources, which will be used in class and during a new lunchtime club. Developing pupils' ability to think creatively (as well as having fun) is a key objective of the extra-curricular programme. This week's focus on Global Citizenship has helped pupils to appreciate cultures and societies from all over the world. Many thanks to the speaker from Christian Aid who visited each class yesterday to talk about the similarities and differences between children in the UK and those living in poorer countries. The juniors have been studying particular countries in the developing world while the infants have been looking at issues such as Fair Trade.

A letter was sent home last week with details about the new parent/teacher meeting arrangements. Please ensure that your reply slip is returned to the school office by this **Friday 30 April**.

The dads' football match against Oliver House is now confirmed for **Saturday 22 May**, so please make a note of this date in your diaries now! More details about the timing and venue to follow.



Could I please ask that children are not left unsupervised in the car park before school starts (particularly younger pupils). Could I also kindly ask parents to wait with their children away from the main entrance as staff sometimes find it difficult to enter the building. I understand that it can often be frustrating to wait until 8.30am for the doors to open, especially if it is cold or rainy. However as staff are not in a position to properly supervise pupils until this time it is important that pupils only enter when the doors are formally opened. Thank you. In order to encourage independence for all children and for reasons of prudence, could I please ask parents to refrain from going into the cloakrooms unless it is absolutely necessary. As we approach the end of the academic year I would hope that all children can now unpack their bags in the cloakrooms on their own.

Please could all the Mary's Meals backpacks be brought into school by **Friday 7 May**, as they will be coming to collect them shortly after that date.

ART WEEK AND EXHIBITION WITH CHEESE & WINE



A reminder about Art Week which takes place from **4 – 7 May** (a separate flyer with more information has been sent home). Parents may either attend the viewing in the hall on **Thursday 6 May from 2.45 – 3.45pm**, or they are welcome to attend the Art Exhibition with cheese & wine on **Friday 7 May at 7.30pm**. All parents are encouraged to purchase their children's artwork!

SATS & ASSESSMENTS

Key Stage 2 SATs for Year 6 pupils will be held over the week beginning **Monday 10 May**. Assessments for children in Years 1-5 will be held the following week.

SCHOOL VISITS

Year 5 will be visiting the National Gallery on **Tuesday 4 May** as part of the 'Take One Picture' initiative.

On **Thursday 13 May**, Year 1 will be visiting Fairfield Halls to see a production of *'The Gruffalo'* as part of their English and Drama studies.

Reception, Year 1 & 2 are looking forward to the African drumming & dance workshop run by one of our mums, Mrs Reynolds-Boison, on **Friday 14 May**.

FUNDRAISING CEILIDH

The Dalcassian Scottish Dance Band are putting on a Scottish Ceilidh in order to raise funds for the Teachers 'wish list'!. It will be held in the school hall on **Saturday 15 May from 7pm**. The price is £12 per ticket, which includes a fish and chip supper and an evening's fun entertainment! A cash bar will be available on the night. All Oakwood parents and their friends are invited. A flyer with return slip to follow.

MUSICAL ASSEMBLY

A reminder about the Musical Assembly this **Friday 30 April at 8.50am**. Parents are welcome to attend.

WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK

We are once again supporting this initiative in order to encourage more children to explore alternative, greener ways of getting to school. This week pupils and staff completed a travel questionnaire, and during an assembly next week we will be discussing the many benefits of walking to school. More details to follow.

SPORTS NEWS

The first U11 cricket and rounders matches take place against Essendene at home (Warlingham Rugby Club grounds) on **Wednesday 5 May at 2.30pm**. Parental support at these fixtures will be greatly appreciated.

NURSERY NEWS....

Could parents please ensure that all items brought into school are clearly labeled, including snacks and clothing.

The children in both nursery classes are enjoying the new outdoor sheltered area, and we will be purchasing some extra resources shortly.

To tie in with this half-term's topic '*Nursery Rhymes*' our cooking activities will also be topic related – the children will be making 'spider biscuits' this week!

Parents wishing their children to wear sunscreen are requested to put it on their children in the morning before they come into school. Nursery children may also purchase the sunhats from Lester Bowden if they wish (see below).

SUNHATS

If parents wish their children to wear the school sunhats, these are available to purchase directly from Lester Bowden. This can also be done by phone or via their website. The sunhats may be worn during break, lunchtimes and PE lessons. Whilst I realise that this might be a bit premature, let's hope the sunny weather continues.

VOUCHERS

Could I ask all parents to check for any 'stray' Tesco & Sainsbury vouchers at home or at the bottom of handbags, as these schemes are nearly finished and we will need to submit our orders soon.

Merit Badge



Merit Badges for the past
2 weeks have been awarded to:

Reception M: Charlotte Mawer &
Natasha Vadgama

Reception P: Elena Torre & Yago Alvarez Vazquez

Year 1: Annabel Candia & Leila Akhavan-Zanjani

Year 2: Holly Osman & Liam Adamson

Year 3: Carlos Symes & Elizabeth Leonard

Year 4: Joshua Grey & Selena Ashlee

Year 5: Hayley Riley & Harry Alexander-Porter

Year 6: Susannah Tully & Carlos Martinez

CONGRATULATIONS CHILDREN!

SAVE THE DATES

FRIDAY 30 APRIL

Musical assembly – 8.50am

Reception M & P mums night out – 8.30pm

MONDAY 3 MAY

Bank holiday – school closed

TUESDAY 4 MAY

Art week begins

Year 5 trip to National Gallery

WEDNESDAY 5 MAY

U11 cricket & rounders vs Essendene (home) 2.30pm

THURSDAY 6 MAY

Art viewing afternoon in hall (2.45 – 3.45pm)

FRIDAY 7 MAY

Art Exhibition with cheese & wine – 7.30pm

MONDAY 10 MAY

Key Stage 2 SATs week begins

THURSDAY 13 MAY

Year 1 trip to Fairfield Halls

FRIDAY 14 MAY

Fr Frank talk for mums – 9am

African drumming / dance workshop for infants

SATURDAY 15 MAY

Fundraising Ceilidh – 7 for 7.30pm

MONDAY 17 MAY

Assessment week begins (Years 1-5)

Walk to School week

U9 cricket & rounders vs Laleham Lea (home) 2.30pm

TUESDAY 18 MAY

PAT meeting – 9am

Opus Dei talk for ladies – 7.30pm

THURSDAY 20 MAY

Shakespeare Workshop for juniors

**Please see the website for all
diary dates this term.**