

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils and Friends

DATE: 15th February 2008

CONGRATULATIONS to Mrs McGuire who has been invited to give a presentation to teachers from other Gateshead schools about the Early Years Movement Programme we have been working on in school. This has proved very successful. We are delighted to share our good practice with other schools!

NURSERY VISIT TO BLAYDON LIBRARY

Our Nursery children had a very enjoyable visit to Blaydon Library on Tuesday.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of the parent helpers!



PARENTS' MEETING WITH THE IEB

I would like to thank those parents who attended the above meeting. The meeting was well attended and was very positive. The parents raised some relevant issues which the IEB addressed. Parents will receive a summary of the main issues discussed at the meeting.

You will be informed about future IEB meetings. The meetings will be held later as some parents expressed concern that 6.00pm was too early for many working parents.

We are committed to working alongside yourselves for the benefit of all of the children in the school.

BLAYDON WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL RECIPE BOOK

In order to make our Recipe Book a success we still need more recipes. If you have any recipes you would like to share can you please hand them to the school office before Friday, 29th February?

We are also running a competition for a child to design the front cover for the book. Your child will bring home a competition sheet so it can be completed it over the half-term holiday.

Good luck to everyone with the competition!

VISIT TO SCHOOL BY MICHAEL GLICKMAN...

Michael Glickman, who is a Jewish Rabbi, visited Year 1 and Year 2 on Tuesday morning as part of their RE curriculum. His visit was very informative for the children who listened very carefully and then asked Mr Glickman some very relevant questions.

Mr Glickman said he really enjoyed his visit and said he would like to come in to see the children again. He was also very impressed with the children's behaviour.

HEAD LICE

I am sorry to bring this topic up again but several parents have mentioned the problem of head lice. Can I please ask you all to check your children's hair over the half-term and ensure that, if a problem is identified, the appropriate treatment is carried out



ATTENDANCE FIGURES

This week's attendance figures are:

Reception - 93.3%, 1B—89.6%, 2L—93.4%,
3D—91.3%, 4O -98.1%, 5KC—96.0%, 5JC—
89.5%, 6F—90.0% and 6D—90.5%.

The attendance prize was won by Miss Ord's class. Our whole school attendance is 92.41% which is below our school target of 94%. We will continue to monitor the situation to improve our attendance.

KINGSWOOD

Can I remind parents that the remainder of the money for Kingswood has to be paid by Friday, 29th February.

If you wish to pay by cheque, please make your cheque payable to Blaydon West Primary School.

FOUL LANGUAGE ON THE SCHOOL PREMISES.....

I have had a number of complaints from parents regarding a minority of parents using foul language on the school yard and whilst waiting to collect children from Nursery.

Parents caught using foul language will be banned from the school premises according to Council policy.

BLAYDON WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY

There have been queries from several parents regarding Nursery places. Just to clarify the situation. Our Nursery is currently full, however, any children whose third birthday falls before the Easter holiday will be offered a place after the Easter Holiday.

Mrs Storey, our Nursery Teacher, will be contacting you in the near future to arrange a home visit and discuss the arrangements for your child's induction into Nursery.

A SUMMARY OF OUR VISIT TO BEAMISH ON 5TH FEBRUARY BY SKYE HOLDER, 5KC

On Tuesday, 5th February the whole of year 5 went on a very special trip to Beamish. We went for a very good reason, to learn more about the Victorians and see what it would be like to be a Victorian child. All of year 5 got dressed up as Victorian children so it was as though we were there when the Victorians lived, which was 100 years ago.

At 10.15am we arrived at the school where the teacher told the boys off for wearing their flat caps. When we got in the school we took off our coats and then we got in class: girls on one side and boys on the other. After that we had to do the register. The teacher told us that we had to call her Ma'am. After a while we had done the eight times table. The pens were really hard to use. Then it came to handwriting. It was the same as in our school. Later we learned a poem then read it out loud.

After finishing at the school we got the tram to the town. We were split into different groups. We went to the co-operative shop where we saw a mangle and the payment system. The system is a lot different from ours. There was a little ball that you put a list of what you want in and the money. Your change came back in the same ball. After that we went to the grocers and they keep many items that are different today. Before lunch we went to the houses and the dentist.

After lunch we went into the printers and we got a little note saying "I have been to Beamish". Having done that we went into the clothes shop to see some examples of how to make clothes. We then visited the sweet shop. Mr Cradock told us that the sweets smelled lovely. We bought some to take home.

Finally we went into the gift shop to buy a little souvenir to remind us of the visit.

Overall I learned a lot about the Victorian lifestyle and how they were treated. I thought that I was actually there in Victorian times! I would definitely like to go back.

SKYE HOLDER
Class 5KC



AND FINALLY!

It has been a very busy start to the year for all of us with lots of exciting changes happening in school. We have had a number of visits and had a number of visitors in school .

I hope you all enjoy the half-term holiday and I look forward to working with you all in the new term.

PAULA BAILEY
Head Teacher