

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils and Friends

DATE: 23rd May 2008

Yesterday Year 2 had another visit from Michael Glickman, who is a Jewish Rabbi. The children were able to ask questions about Jewish life. Michael said he was really impressed with the sensible questions the children asked and was even further impressed with the good behaviour he saw! Well done Year 2. You are a credit to our school!

BASKETBALL AND DRAMA CLUBS

Miss Ord has asked me to remind you that we have the following clubs running after the half-term holiday.

Basketball—Tuesday after school for Years 4, 5 and 6

Drama—Wednesday after school for Years 1, 2 and 3

If you have not already received information regarding the above clubs, and you would like your child to take part, please contact Miss Ord.



KEEP FIT CLUB

If you would like to join some of our parents in their Keep Fit Club in school on Thursday afternoons between 1.30pm and 3.00pm you are more than welcome. The class works out to a variety of tapes with the hope of increasing fitness! The sessions are fun and lively and cost £1.00 per week. If you would like to take part please come along and have some fun.

A POLITE REMINDER

Children going home for lunch

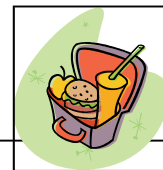
Can I remind parents who take children out of school at lunchtime that they should not be returned to school until 1.00pm if your child is in Key Stage 1 or 1.15pm if your child is in Key Stage 2.

Packed Lunches

Over the past few weeks we have experienced a few problems with parents coming into school during the morning to drop packed lunches off for children.

We understand, on occasions, your child may forget to pick up their packed lunch, however, we would appreciate it if you could ensure your child brings their packed lunch to school in the morning.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for supporting our Healthy Eating Policy by providing healthy packed lunches for your children.



EXCITING EDUCATIONAL VISITS FOR SOME OF OUR CHILDREN

After we return from our half-term holiday two of our classes are going on educational visits.

On Wednesday, 4th June, Reception are going to Plessey Woods as part of their nature topic and on Friday, 6th June, Year 3 are visiting Arbeia Roman fort, which ties in with their current history topic.

I am sure they will have a wonderful time. Watch out on the next Newsletter for reports from the children about these visits.

YEAR 1 SUPPORT

After half-term Diane Nichol, an experienced Year 1 teacher, will be working alongside Miss Benison with groups of children to provide additional support to boost their communication, language and literacy skills. Diane will be in school on Thursday and Friday mornings.

YEAR 3 AND YEAR 6

During the next half-term Year 6 will be involved in a number of transition projects to prepare them for their transfer to secondary school in September.

Miss Donnelly and Mrs Hall will be leading this work with Year 6 in the morning sessions. Mrs Ford will be supporting Year 3 during these sessions.

THE FRIENDS OF BLAYDON WEST would like to thank everyone who supported the Ceilidh last Saturday. A total of £170.50 was raised for school funds.

Here are a few comments from people who attended:

Miss Benison said "We had a fantastic night".

Mrs Batey said "My daughter really loved it and can't wait for the next one".

"I danced every dance" said a Year 6 pupil.

"We all enjoyed the Ceilidh—it was a great family night" said the Murray family.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the Friends of Blaydon West for organising this successful event.

ATTENDANCE FIGURES

This week's attendance figures are:

Reception— 97.8%, 1B— 97.9%, 2L-97.2%, 3D- 94.1%, 4O- 96.7%, 5JC—98.2%, 5KC— 93.6%, 6D—88.3% and 6F— 89.4%.

The attendance prize was won by Mrs Clamp's class. Our whole school attendance is 94.8% which is just below our school target of 95%.

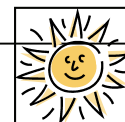
SUN CARE

Hopefully the weather will be a lot warmer by the time we return to school so I would like to remind you of an item on last week's Newsletter.

Now that the summer is in sight, and the warmer weather is hopefully with us, we need to ensure that the children are safe from the effects of the sun. Could you please ensure that your child brings a sun hat to wear during breaks and PE sessions? Make sure that you label it clearly with your child's name to avoid confusion.

When the weather is particularly hot could you please apply a high sun factor sun cream in the morning to protect your children from the effects of the sun. Unfortunately, due to child protection issues and health and safety, staff are not allowed to apply sun cream. However, if you apply it before school it will last for the day.

Children have access to fresh drinking water throughout the school day and we are lucky to have shaded areas outside so that if the weather becomes too hot the children can seek shade.



HALF-TERM HOLIDAY

I am sure you will already be aware that school closes at 3.20pm today for the half-term holiday. School re-opens at 8.55am on Monday, 2nd June.

AND FINALLY

I hope you all enjoy your break and I look forward to seeing you all back for the run up to the summer holidays!

PAULA BAILEY
Head Teacher