

NEWSLETTER

5th February 2010

Cycling to School

As you know we have a cycle shed at school for children to park their cycles when they cycle to school. The school rules regarding cycling to school have always been that the children must first pass their 'Bikeability level 2' (organised by Cycle Derby). This ensures that the children have had training and are aware of the dangers on the public roads. However, the timings of the training means that only Year 6 children are able to cycle to school – and only in the final (summer) term. I would therefore like to put forward some proposals to you:

1. Children may cycle to school regardless of whether or not they have passed their Bikeability test.
2. Any child cycling to school MUST wear a cycle helmet.
3. Any child cycling to school MUST have a roadworthy cycle, including front and rear brakes (you'd be surprised!).
4. Parents MUST sign a permission slip agreeing to their child cycling to and from school, and taking full responsibility for their child's safety whilst undertaking these journeys.
5. Year 3 and 4 children MUST be accompanied by a parent to and from school.
6. Children MUST sign a cycling protocol. This would include NOT giving others a 'lift' on their cycle, WALKING with their cycle when on the school grounds etc.

Children would have a cycling 'passport' once they have demonstrated that their cycle is roadworthy and that they have a suitable helmet. They would then be allowed to cycle to school.

I feel that this initiative could benefit the children in terms of daily exercise, and also reduce parking issues at the school.

We will continue to organise training with Cycle Derby throughout the year. For example Year 6 will have their Bikeability level 2 training during the first week of March and we are starting a Cycle Club after school in April for Years 4 and 5. The Year 5 Bikeability level 1 training will be at the beginning of July.

My main concern is that the children are safe when travelling to school, however, it remains the parents responsibility to ensure that they do arrive safely. Some parents may wish to wait until their child has completed the training before allowing them to ride to school, but of course, the training does not guarantee that the child suddenly 'becomes safe'. It does, however, give excellent basic instruction for riding on the roads in a safe manner. If your child is interested in cycling to school please ask them to collect a letter from me on Monday.

Road Safety Quiz

Today all the children took part in a Road Safety Quiz organised by the Derby City Council Road Safety Team. This has included a large section on cycle safety, and so is well timed to support our cycle-to-school initiative. Well done to Harmony Hui on winning the Road Safety Quiz. She received a £15.00 gift voucher for W H Smith.

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

Vouchers will be available to collect from Sainsbury's stores, petrol stations and with online groceries between 17th February and 8th June. Please continue to support school by accepting these and sending them in with your child.

Flora Cooking with Schools Tokens

We are now collecting Flora tokens too! Pop these into school and we'll do the rest. Many thanks.

World Book Day

To coincide with World Book Day on Thursday 4th March, every child in the UK has been given a £1 Book Token which can be redeemed at all participating bookshops from Monday 1st March until Sunday 28th March (minimum redemption £2.99). A limited number of World Book Day titles for just £1 will also be available.

Gold Book

The following children have had their names put in the Gold Book recently:

Sophie Milner, Owen Alton, Harry Gladwin, George Tomlinson, Jayden Cotterill, Nathan Martin.

Dates for Your Diary:

Spring Term 2010

Tuesday 9 th and Wednesday 10 th February	Year 6 Parents evenings
Friday 12 th February	Break up for Half Term
Monday 22 nd February	Return
Friday 26 th February	Coffee afternoon
Thursday 11 th March	Class Photographs
Monday 22 nd and Tuesday 23 rd March	Parents Evenings (Years 3/4 and 5)
Friday 26 th March	Coffee morning
Thursday 1 st April	Break up for Easter

Summer term 2010

Monday 19 th April	Return
Monday 3 rd May	May Bank Holiday
w/c 10 th May	Key Stage 2 SATs week (Year 6)
w/c 17 th May	Assessments (Years 3, 4 and 5)
Thursday 27 th May	Break up for Half Term
Friday 28 th May	INSET Day
Monday 7 th June	Return
w/c 14 th June	Scarborough – Year 6 (provisional)
Monday 28 th June	INSET Day
Friday 16 th July	Sports Day
Friday 23 rd July	Last day of School Year