

NEWSLETTER

12th September 2008

A New School Year

I would like to begin by saying that it is great to be back, following my year working as a School Improvement Officer in the City. I can't believe that the twelve months has gone so quickly! The school has been in very capable hands during my secondment and I would like to thank all the staff for their efforts in maintaining our high standards during my absence. Special thanks should go to Mrs Cunningham who has now tasted headship, and also to Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Rock who increased their roles within the school during that time.

I would like to welcome the children new to the school and to report that they have settled in well.

Federation

Your child should have brought home a consultation document today regarding federating the Infant and Junior schools. The document gives detailed information regarding federation, indicates the benefits to the schools, and invites all interested parties to comment on the proposal. The Governing bodies of both schools will then decide whether or not to proceed.

It is important that the governors hear your views and two parent meetings have been arranged on Monday 22nd September at 2.30pm, repeated at 6.00pm. At the meetings the governors will talk about the benefits of federation and invite questions and comments from parents. Mick Seller, the Assistant Director (Learning), will also be present to answer questions from a Local Authority perspective.

Personally I believe that federation will give the opportunity for the two schools to work even more closely together, yet retain a degree of individual identity.

The governors look forward to receiving your thoughts and comments.

Changes to Behaviour Book Communication

In response to requests from parents, we have made a change to how we communicate with parents when their child's name has been entered in the Behaviour Book. Instead of a letter when your child's name has been entered in the book three times in one term, we will now send a note to parents **on the first occasion**. The note will show details of why your child is in the book, and will have a tear off acknowledgement slip for you to return so that we know you have received it. This means that parents will be better informed about their children's behaviour and can contact us much earlier so that we can work together to address behaviour issues.

P.E. Kit

There are already a number of children coming to school without P.E. kit.

P.E. and Games are an important part of the school curriculum and it is vital that all children have the correct clothing and footwear. Quite a few children in Year 3 are saying that they do not have any indoor pumps. Please could parents ensure that their child has all the necessary kit as soon as possible.

Jewellery

Could I refer parents to our Jewellery Policy which states that ear-rings should be a single plain stud (not diamonds!).

Please be reminded that we are not able to help children to remove ear-rings; they must do this unaided or alternatively not wear them on the days which they have P.E.

Breaktime snacks

As a Healthy School, the only snack allowed at breaktime is fresh fruit. This can be purchased from school at a cost of 15p. Bottled water is also on sale at 25p.

Lunchtime Clubs

We are proud to offer a wide variety of clubs at lunchtime.

The list below shows the days and times of the clubs.

	12.05 – 12.35	12.30 – 1.00
Monday	Y4 Cheerleading	Y5 & Y6 Netball Y6 Engineers
Tuesday	Y3 & Y4 Dance	Y5 & Y6 Dance Y6 ICT
Wednesday	Y5 & Y6 Choir	
Thursday	Y5 Cheerleading Y6 K'Nex	Y3 Computers
Friday	Y4 Art Y5 & Y6 Cross country In-Club	In-Club

In addition, Tag Rugby and Football Clubs take place after school.

Flute lessons will now be on Fridays. Also the guitar teacher has vacancies – if interested, send a note to Mrs Cunningham.

Autumn Term Topics

	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Science	Light and Shadows Teeth and Eating	Moving and Growing Keeping Warm	Earth in Space Solids, Liquids, Gases	Forces More about Dissolving
History		Ancient Greeks		Britain since 1930
Geography	Weather		A village in India	
D & T	Making sandwiches	Books with moving parts	Cam mechanisms - toys	Slippers

Dates for Your Diary: 2008/9

Autumn Term 2008

Monday 22nd September
2.30pm and 6.00pm

Federation Meeting for Parents

Tuesday 14th October

Parent Consultation Evening

Wednesday 15th October

Parent Consultation Evening

Monday 20th October

Individual photographs

Friday 24th October

Break up for Half term

Monday 3rd November

Return to school

w/c 10th November

Book week

24th – 28th November

Whole School Assessments (Please do not book holidays during or immediately before this week)

Friday 19th December

Break up for Christmas

Spring Term 2009

Monday 5th January 2009

INSET day (to be confirmed)

Tuesday 6th January 2009

Return to school

Friday 13th March 2009

INSET day (to be confirmed)

11th -15th May 2009

SATs Assessments (No holidays will be authorised during this week; please do not book holidays immediately before this week)

Please be aware that further INSET days from September 2008 onwards are yet to be confirmed.