

Old Newspapers ~ Both Foundation Stage staff and Miss Rolling are desperate for old newspapers they can use for painting and art topics. Please send in whatever you don't need ~ thank you!

PPA Cover ~ Now Mr Cook has retired we needed to find someone else to assist Miss Rolling in covering each teacher's 10% non-contact time and we are trialling the use of two fully qualified and CRB checked sports coaches from Barnsley Football Club. Their names are Darren England and Clement. They started last week and will continue this Spring Term when we will review how successful the initiative has been. They are teaching one lesson per week in each KS1 and KS2 class and we thought this would be excellent for the children to get professional tuition in this way. Darren and Clement teach all sports and areas of the PE curriculum as prescribed in the National Curriculum and bring all their own equipment. So far your children seem to be really enjoying it and it is working very well.

KS2 P.E. Outside ~ Darren and Clement will be taking KS2 classes outside when the weather picks up and we would like children to have some warmer clothing to wear on top of their normal P.E. kit if they do go outside ~ also old trainers as well as indoor pumps. We don't need brightly coloured designer label outfits but just something simple that keeps them warm and you don't mind too much if it gets dirty! An old tracksuit top or sweatshirt will suffice for example and all this could be kept in school in a bag and taken home each half term for washing. If you have any such items you can donate to school they will be kept for those children unable to bring their own ~ just give them to any KS2 teacher.

P.E. Kits ~ This would also be an opportune time to remind everyone what the school PE Kit is and to make sure it is named and kept in a bag in school. It is quite simply white shorts and white polo shirt which you can buy at many outlets including Asda.

Mock Sats ~ Class 6 are doing their 'Mock Sats' this week in preparation for the real thing in May. We've found that doing this is very beneficial for the children and also for us in identifying the areas we most need to still work on.

School security ~ Please note that the caretaker has been asked to lock the playground gate at 9.10 a.m. each morning so if you arrive late to school for whatever reason, please come in via the main entrance ~ many thanks.



Friends News

Friends Meeting ~ There is a Friends meeting this Wednesday 14th January at the Bluebell Inn, 7.30 p.m. The aim of the meeting is to plan out events for the Spring Term and discuss new ideas for fund raising. All are welcome to come along. If you can't make the meeting, send your ideas to Mandy Philbin on: mandy.philbin@blueyonder.co.uk



Parents' Library ~ A reminder that we have an excellent parents' library as part of the school library which is free and run on a trust basis. The top two shelves on the right hand side are designated books you can borrow. If you have any books you would like to donate to the library just give them to any member of staff and we'll put a thank you sticker into each book. As you know we are trying to encourage your children to read as much as possible and if they see you taking up a book as well it will give them an excellent example.

Contact Details / Telephone costs ~ there has been a noticeable increase in the school telephone bill and one reason for this is having to ring mobile phone numbers when we need to contact parents because we don't have a landline number. It would really help us if you could ensure the office have a landline number (either at home or work) for first contact. Obviously if there is an emergency we will contact you at any number we can. Many thanks.

Pupil Absences ~ If your child will not be attending school (for example due to illness) please telephone school before 9.30 a.m. that day to save the ladies in the office contacting you ~ many thanks.

Rainbows ~ We are having a meeting in school this Wednesday from 4.00 - 5.00 p.m. with Mrs Sue McDermott from the Rainbows charity. Bishop John is very keen that every school in the Diocese should offer the Rainbows programme and we are looking for suitable volunteers from the school and parish community to help. Training will be free. The philosophy of Rainbows is to provide support for children by helping them work through the grief process associated with death, divorce or other significant loss. This is accomplished by implementing the Rainbows programme. If you want to find out more just come along to the meeting, more information is on the charity's website: www.rainbows.org

You must be crackers! ~ How do you know when the tide has gone out?
(It gives a little wave...)



Thank you for reading this newsletter,
John Gregson