

* Coming Up *

Tuesday 27th January ~ Y5/6 after school football on the Astroturf with Mr Hickey

Thursday 29th January ~ Y3 retreat day at Bamford. Beaumanor Hall Meeting in school at 6.30 p.m. for Y6 parents and children.

Friday 30th January ~ School Mass led by Y3 children at 9.15. Coffee morning from 9.00 a.m. All welcome. Class One visit to Oakwell 1.00 - 3.30 p.m.

Tuesday 3rd February ~ Full governor's meeting in school at 5.00 p.m. Y5/6 after school football on the Astroturf with Mr Hickey

Grand Opening ~ Reminder of the date of the official opening of the new classroom which is Monday 9th February beginning with a special assembly at 10.30 a.m. to which everyone is invited from both home and parish. The new room will be opened by Ashley Jackson and the Mayor of Barnsley and we have also invited Edna Sutton, John Cape (from the Diocese) as well as the architects and builders. What a wonderful legacy this facility will be for our school.

Next Phase : The next phase with this project will be to erect some raised beds in the garden area outside so each class can have the opportunity to grow their own fruit and vegetables. I saw some research recently that said how very few children in our modern western world actually knew where their food comes from. It will be so worthwhile for a child to prepare the soil, plant a seed, watch it grow, nurture it, harvest and eat the produce. We are also going to have a small Grotto under the tree built with a statue of Our Lady around which classes and our prayer group can gather at various times of the year.

Next Project ~ The governors and staff are never ones to stand still and plans have already been put together for our next project which will be to further improve the outside area for the Foundation Stage. If you recall, this was a recommendation from our last Ofsted that we had already identified and can now get on with. Miss Mackenzie has put together some very detailed and excellent ideas for enhancing this area for our youngest children. Profits from the school Summer Fayre 2009 will go towards completing this project.

Science Lab Visit : Many thanks to Mr Hickey for arranging a visit for class 6 to spend the morning in a science lab at Sheffield University.

The children had the time of their lives and pictures can be seen of their work on the web site.



Friends News

Coffee Morning ~ This Friday from 9.00 a.m. everyone is very welcome to come along and have some fun!

Table Football Games ~ The Friends have bought 3 of these very popular games for KS2 children to play on for a total of £180 and they are all now in use in school. Thanks to Halfords in Barnsley who agreed to sell us their last display model at a knock down price of only £30.

Mrs Helliwell : We always knew we had the best R.E. Co-ordinator in the Diocese! Congratulations to Mrs Helliwell who has been asked to give a presentation to fellow R.E. co-ordinators at their next meeting in February on how we use ICT to deliver R.E. at Holy Rood School. The excellent practice here has obviously not gone unnoticed.

Beaumanor Hall Meeting : This Thursday in school at 6.30 p.m. for parents and children going on the Y6 residential from the 2nd - 6th March. We will be joined again by one of the instructors from the outdoor activity centre to go through the itinerary for the week and answer any questions you may have.

Whitby Residential : Parents in Class Four have been sent a letter with details of the Whitby residential from July 15th - 17th. Things like Whitby and Beaumanor are absolutely priceless in building children's self - confidence and they always remember such golden moments. We have such a great staff who are prepared to do the mountain of preparations and paperwork as well as take on the responsibility of looking after your children and no praise can be too high for them.

BFC Coaches : The 2 coaches from BFC, Darren and Clement, are doing an excellent job taking your children for a P.E. lesson every week. Darren donated 10 free tickets to school for the Barnsley V Ipswich match tomorrow night and these have been given to some lucky children in class six.

Surprise, Surprise! : Thanks to Darren, classes five and six had a secret surprise visit from two first team players from BFC ~ Martin Devaney and Anderson Da Silva! The players posed for photos, answered questions and signed autographs. Fantastic for the children and many thanks to the players and Barnsley Football Club ~ Come on you Reds!

You must be crackers! ~ How did Jack Frost get to work? (By Icicles!) Sent in by Amy Senior

Thank you for reading
this newsletter,
John Gregson

