



Kentisbury Primary School Newsletter

(Part of the West Exmoor Federation)

Date: 2nd October, 2009 Term: Autumn Newsletter Number: 3

Young Play Leaders

On Wednesday Charlotte and Shaun went with Barbara to a playtime leadership course. The day was a huge success and since their training Charlotte and Shaun have been leading some brilliant playground games.

Coffee

Thank you to those of you who attended the coffee session with Mrs Lee, the Learning Communities Parent Support Advisor (PSA) yesterday.

Peer learning across the federation

On Monday the Parracombe FS/KS1 children and Jody Davie came over to Kentisbury to work along side the Kentisbury children on their theme learning. This fantastic learning experience is going to continue in the future with the children working alongside each other every Monday afternoon. This allows the children to learn in a bigger group of children of their own age and gives them the opportunity to get to know other children in the federation.

Goodbye

We will be saying farewell to Marian at the end of next week. I am sure you will join me in wishing Marian our very best wishes for the future and thank her for her contribution to the school and the federation.

Foundation Stage/KS1 trip to Rosemoor

Jody Davie, the foundation stage coordinator has kindly organised for the children across the federation to go to Rosemoor on the 6th October to do some learning about the senses which fits in perfectly with their theme learning this term. Please ensure you have returned your reply slip if you haven't already.

Exmoor Park Ranger Visit

The KS2 class will be doing some work with Poie Lee on Friday 9th October. She will be taking the children for a walk around the local area and will be working with them on what they would like to develop in the local area as well as things they would like to celebrate. Please can you ensure all children bring their wellies and coats to school for the event.

Year 4 trip to Whistlandpound

Olwyn Kirby, the year 3 and 4 teacher at Lynton has kindly organised for the year 4 children across the federation to go to Whistlandpound on the 13th October to do some learning on 'Nature Detectives' and some den building which will fit in with their science learning on materials. A letter to follow with more details will follow shortly.

Harvest festival

The school has been invited to take part in the church's harvest festival on Sunday 11th October at 6.00. Some children will be selected to do readings and take offerings up to the altar. However, all children, parents and families are invited to attend. There will be refreshments after the service and also an auction of harvest produce. Please bring anything you would like to donate to school by Friday 9th October or to the service on the night (e.g. fruit, vegetables, flowers, cider, preserves, etc).

Painting party

I will be staining the fences, gazebo, playhouse and remaining sheds on Thursday 15th October. If you could spare some time after you drop off your children in the morning your help would be very much appreciated.

Thank you

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Harrison for kindly offering to do some maintenance jobs around the school.

The Foundation Area

Thank you to those of you who have raised concerns about the foundation area. Today we have spoken to all the children about the importance of not leaving the fenced and gated foundation area without adult supervision. We have also drawn another hopscotch inside the contained area so there is no temptation to go out to the front of the school to use the existing one. In addition we have made signs to go on all gates to ensure the foundation area is closed off at all times. I will personally be making spot checks to ensure that the gates are left closed and will train someone in Year 6 to have the special responsibility for closing the gates after play (with the adult on duty checking to see this is

implemented). I am confident these measures will ensure the children are contained at all times.

Cover Teachers

Thank you also for raising the issue that no teacher was on site on Wednesday. Please can I reassure you that the adult to pupil ratio was met in the school. I chose to use Miss Conibear and Mrs Freer to cover the classes as they know the children well and were following plans set by the class teachers. In my opinion, I believe they would do a better job of taking the classes in fresh to the school. Can I please reassure you that there are no other meetings in the diary which will take both teachers off site at the same time, yesterday was genuinely an exception.

Morning Supervision

As Barbara is always on site everyday, she is going to come out onto the playground from 8:30-8:45.

Schemes which could help you

Working Tax Credits (WTC)

WTC could help you. Please see: <http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/default.aspx?WTC-Report>

This scheme is for parents who want to work and train and need help paying for childcare and other activities.

2gether

There is also a leaflet in the entrance hall about a scheme which is available to you if you have a 2 year old and are on a low income.

School admissions deadline

Just a reminder that the secondary school admission deadline is 16th Oct 2009 and the primary school admission deadline is 15th Jan 2010. You can apply online at: www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline or telephone: 08451551019

Dates for your diary

13.10.09 - PTFA meeting @ 2.00pm
16.10.09 - PTFA Curry and quiz night @ The Hunters Inn
19.10.09 - 23.10.09 - Yr 5 & 6 residential
23.10.09 - PTFA Halloween party
23.10.09 - Break up for half term
2.11.09 - Back to school

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