



Kentisbury Primary School Newsletter

(Part of the West Exmoor Federation)

Date: 16th October, 2009 Term: Autumn Newsletter Number: 4

Dear Parents/Carers

Out and About

Since the last newsletter the children across the federation have been on many out of school learning opportunities. The Foundation Stage and KS1 went to Rosemoor to learn about the senses. The children had a fantastic day and were blessed with good weather. Year 4 went to Wistlandpound and had a wonderful day being one of the first groups of school children to experience the new education centre there. Miss Yeo, the centres education officer, wrote to say the children 'were great to work with, well behaved, really keen and enthusiastic' and she really hopes we can work together again in the future. Years 1 and 2 have been to Ilfracombe College for a multi-skills morning where they took part in a range of PE activities with children across the Ilfracombe Learning Community.

Exmoor National Park Ranger Visit

Miss Lee came to Kentisbury last week to work with the KS2 children. She was very impressed with the children's behaviour and all the excellent reflections they made on their local environment.

Harvest Festival

Thank you to all of you who attended the Church harvest festival on Sunday. I'm sorry I was unable to attend as I was busy helping Mrs Smith in her new classroom, however I have received a lovely email from Mrs Denham, the Church warden filling me in on the evening: 'The children were great, very clear and a joy that they were able to be there along with their Mums and Dads. Thank you. There were the usual pumpkins and plenty of them despite everyone groaning that the harvest this year was poor. Needless to say the children outbid each other to get them, so a good time was had by all, which is what Harvest should be. Please thank the children on behalf of the Church, they made the evening.'

Future Events

Mr Cooper will continue to come into federation to do some video work with the children over the next few weeks. At the moment the children are working on an electronic prospectus for the federation. Mrs Lee and some children from Ilfracombe College will be coming in to do a 'Brain Gym' dance project with the children on Wednesday. They will produce a DVD of a dance routine which can be used to support 'Brain Gym' in schools.

Parenting Day at The Lantern

Mrs Lee (Parent Support Advisor) has organized a parenting day on Tuesday 20th October at The Lantern, Ilfracombe. Please see the attached flier.

Start and End of the Day

Can we please remind you that we are only responsible for children from 8.30 onwards when Mrs Watts is on the playground and that therefore, children should not arrive on site any earlier than this. Also, please can you collect your children from the playground and once the children are within your care they are to leave the premises immediately without playing on the field, climbing frame, etc. Once the children are with you they are no longer our responsibility and it is for you to ensure that the children are not playing on the equipment.

Pencil cases and Toys

May I please remind you that pencil cases are not permitted in school. All the resources the children need are provided in tubs around the classroom. Also Mrs Smith has asked me to let you know that she will be doing 'Show and Tell' on a Monday morning and that this is the only time children can bring toys in to school.

Congratulations

A huge well done to Mrs Freer, Mrs Leworthy and Mr Peacock for passing their mini-bus training this week.

Next Week

Miss Huggins will be full time in the EYFS/KS1 class and Mrs Hamer will be full time in the KS2 class next week as Mrs Smith and Mrs Watts will be going with year 5 and 6 on the residential. Also, Mrs Hamer's sister will be in school gaining some pre-university teaching experience during the week.

Gardening Day

At the PTFA meeting we decided to cancel the 'painting party' on Thursday and instead have a 'tidy up the grounds' day on Saturday 24th October from 11:00 onwards. We hope to paint the fences and sheds, lay some more bark chippings, put up the bird and bat boxes and prune the fruit trees.

School Photos

Please can you buy your school photo, if you haven't already done so, by Tuesday 20th October as we soon need to send them back to Tempest.

Facebook

Thank you to those of you who have requested members of staff to be your friends on Facebook however we will not be able to accept as it is the Federation policy for staff not to be friends with parents or children on the social networking site.

Educational Jargon

A few people have asked me what the terms HLTA and TA stand for. HLTA is a Higher Level Teaching Assistant and TA a teaching assistant. An HLTA can teach a class in the absence of a teacher.

Walk to school

Thank you to those of you who have taken part in walk to school month. It was a delight to see William and Jenson walking up the lane!

Kind Regards,

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