

NEWSLETTER TERM 3 2011

Dear parents and carers,

IMPROVING PLAY

We have spent since September planning a new focus on school lunchtimes in an effort to reduce accidents and improve the quality of play. Every member of staff and all of the children have been involved in this. We have:

- Put all of our heads together to come up with new plans
- Re-organised supervision
- Met regularly with the school council who feed in the views of their classmates
- Bought in a 'Play-Ranger' to teach the children new games
- Bought in a trainer to teach all of the staff playground songs
- Invested in new musical equipment so that children can sing and dance outside when the weather improves a bit
- Zoned the playground
- Trained Playground Leaders (Using secondary school pupils)
- Re-organised the Dining Hall

After the February break we will be introducing a 'top table' for children who use a knife and fork and have really good table manners. We hope to have a lot of children use this table and I have spoken to the children about using their cutlery properly so please help them at home.

The end result is a quieter lunch time with calmer children and we are thrilled with the outcome. A **huge thank you** to everyone who participated in the reorganisation.

Playground leaders:

Ben SM
Liam P
Brandon H
Lucca S
Codey F

Samantha A
Lucy W
Bryony J
Hope S
Ellie M

Casey B
Maddison F
Chloe M

The trainer commented upon the immaculate behaviour of this group and the common sense they showed. Well done!

KEY STAGE 1 PANTOMIME VISIT

The whole of Key Stage 1 visited the Bristol Hippodrome for Dick Whittington. They absolutely loved it and for many children this was their first experience of a **live performance in a Theatre**. Several members of the public stopped us to comment upon how well behaved the children were. So they were a credit to the school.

THE CHICKS ARE COMING!

Two years ago we bought an incubator and some eggs so that we could have chicks in school. Mr Hutton set up a **webcam in the incubator** and the children could watch the progress of the chicks hatching on the interactive boards in the classrooms. When the chicks arrive (1st February) parents are very welcome to come and visit them in the library **at the end of each day**. (Although it will take a few days before there is any change)

MATHS AND MATHS GAMES IN KEY STAGE 1

On Tuesday 15th February Mr Hutton and Wendy Miles (Parent Link Adviser), will demonstrate **Maths games for you to play with your child** and Mr Hutton will explain the benefits of games with young children. If you would like to come along and play a game with your child and a couple of their friends, then please complete the slip at the end of this letter. If not enough parents register, I'm afraid we will need to cancel as we need a viable group. So come along and help your child to learn.....

CROSSING PATROL WARDEN

Our crossing Patrol Warden is off ill and her illness is intermittent which makes it difficult to find cover for her. THE SCHOOL DOES NOT EMPLOY, NOR HAVE ANY INVOLVEMENT IN THE CROSSING PATROL AS IT IS A SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE SCHEME. School crossing wardens must be trained for insurance purposes and therefore **we cannot ask anyone to stand in for absence**. If you are trained or know anyone who is, then please let the school know and we will pass the information on. If you would be willing to be trained and act as stand-in, then please let us know that as well and I can pass the information forward. In the meantime, we remain without a warden and parents need to make sure their children cross roads safely.

T@2.30

On Friday 18th February we have the next [T@2.30](#) in the school Hall. This is a chance to come along for a chat and a cup of tea-even if you pop in when you arrive early to pick your child up. Everyone is welcome, entrance through the Hall doors. This time we will have a 10 minute input from **Mark Lawrence**, who works for South Gloucestershire to improve activities, clubs, sport and outings. He will give a short talk at 2.30pm. Please come along, these are very relaxed events.

SAINSBURY'S VOUCHERS

You contributed a staggering amount of vouchers this year and I have attached a list of the items we used them for. A HUGE thank-you for sending them in-we have really improved our PE resources as a result.

School Diary

JANUARY 2011	
Monday 24th January	Science week-investigations (2 days)
FEBRUARY 2011	
Tuesday 15th	Maths games session for parents of children in KS1 2.30pm
Thursday 17th February	Performance Y6 9.15 & 6.30
Friday 18th February	T@2.30 END OF TERM 3
Monday 28th February	TERM 4 SCHOOL CLOSED FOR INSET
MARCH 2011	
Tuesday 1st	START OF TERM 4
Monday 7th March	World Maths Day
Tuesday 8th March	Inter-schools Quiz at Kings' Forest
Wednesday 16th March	Wildlife Wonder Day
Tuesday 22nd March	Parents' evening 4-7pm

Thursday 24th March	Parents' evening 4-7pm
Friday 25th March	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR INSET
APRIL 2011	
Wednesday 6th April	Y4/5 production 9.15 & 6.30pm
Thursday 7th April	Music Festival
Friday 8th April	END OF TERM 4
Tuesday 26th April	TERM 5
Friday 29th April	ROYAL WEDDING BANK HOLIDAY-SCHOOL CLOSED
MAY 2011	
Monday 9th May to Friday 13th May	Y6 SATs
Monday 16th May to Friday 20th May (TBC)	Y6 Residential Trip to Okehampton
Thursday 26th May	Y3 production 9.15 & 6.30
Friday 27th May	END OF TERM 5
JUNE 2011	
Monday 6th June	TERM 6 School closed for INSET
Tuesday 28th June	Key Stage 1 Sports Day
Thursday 30th June	Key Stage 2 Sports Day
JULY 2011	
Wednesday 20th July	LEAVERS' ASSEMBLY FOR YEAR 6
Thursday 21st July	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR INSET
Friday 22nd July	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR INSET

MATHS GAMES IN KEY STAGE 1

The session starts promptly at 2.30pm. Please come in the main gate and through the front Hall door or come in the Prospect Crescent entrance and in the side Hall door. The Deerswood gate will not be open.

I am interested in coming along to the Maths games session on Tuesday 15th February at 2.30pm, to play a game with my child .

Name of child _____

Name of adult _____

Younger children are welcome as long as they remain supervised within the room.

Please return this to the school by Friday 28th January at the latest.