

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2010

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to the new school year. We are off to a flying start with very settled children and a calm atmosphere.

E-MAIL

Thank you to all of those parents who have opted for letters by e-mail, almost 200 so far. The amount of time and paper this will save is quite extraordinary. If you experience any difficulties with the system, please let us know immediately but it looks promising at this stage!

INTERNATIONAL AWARD

The school has been awarded an **International Award** by the British Council. This is a prestigious award in three levels and the staff have worked hard to achieve it. It recognises events in school such as The Eurovision Song Contest, the International recycled fashion show and the International Day of languages as well as links we have made with schools in China, Uganda and Europe. This year we will be hosting teachers from Latvia, Italy, Spain and Poland and there will be opportunities to link with schools in those countries. All of this improves understanding of education in the wider world for both staff and pupils and it is an honour to receive the award.

PARKING

Please park considerately. The neighbours in **Prospect Close** are often completely blocked in when they need to take their children to playgroup or go to work themselves. Several cars block the section near the school gate and I receive complaints from residents who are quite distraught at rudeness from parents when they ask them to move their vehicles.

ABSENCE

Good attendance is critical to your child's well-being in school. We aim always to have 95% attendance. Regular days off and holidays often takes children's attendance below this figure. Parents of pupils in this school have now been taken to Court by South Gloucestershire for their children's persistent absence from school. Fines and a one year order were imposed by the judge.

DANGER

Several children were running across the road near the roundabout one morning this week and cars had to slam their brakes on to avoid them, despite their being a Crossing Patrol Warden available. This was reported to us by a parent.

We have also had a couple of near misses in the car park in the mornings where **Breakfast Club** children have been dropped at the drive and reversing cars have almost knocked them over. Please drop your child at the **pedestrian entrance and not in the car park.**

MUSIC

Mr Owen has taken over from Mr Bowman as Music Subject Leader and he already has lots of ideas, which include links with Secondary schools and a Samba Band. We have been awarded funding for a set of Samba Drums.....

WEBSITE www.kingsforestschoo.co.uk

We update all of the class photographs once a term and the diary date section is helpful.

EVENTS

21st September-Open morning for new children starting in 2011

22nd September-Meet the teacher sessions from 3.30-5pm. This is a chance to call into the classroom-it is NOT parents' evening.

If your child is absent from school please ring 01454 866466 by 9.30am. All answer phone messages are picked up first thing.

If you know of a child due to start school in September 2011, they MUST register now. Please contact Mrs Walker for details. Several parents left it late last year and were not awarded a school place despite having older brothers and sisters in the school. There is a waiting list for Kings' Forest School.

Thank you to parents who have offered and provided help in the absence of the caretaker, Mr Parry, who is currently out sick following an operation.

EW 15/9/10