



LINGFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Partners in Learning
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NAME

AUTUMN TERM 2011

NEWSLETTER NUMBER 2

23rd September 2011

Dear Parents,

Attendance

You child received a visit from MAC (Make Attendance Count) the attendance squirrel last week in assembly. She was well received and many useful points were made, in particular the one of feigning a stomach ache or headache. The Government, as we do, continue to make it clear how important it is for children to be in school unless they are too ill. Scores of hours of learning time are lost each school year due to weak excuses for non attendance. Please do not allow your child to be the victim of valuable lost learning time. We have decided to extend the number of attendance certificates we award to children by including children with 97 to 100% each half term, not termly as in previous years. As explained in the last newsletter, Mrs Catherine Jones, the Education Welfare Officer will be checking school registers on a regular basis and will follow up any concerns.

Pupil Awards

To encourage and motivate children with progress in learning, attitude to learning as well aspects of personal and social development we have introduced new incentives and kept some old ones. In addition to attendance certificates, as explained in the previous paragraph and 'Learning Awards' for the 6Rs as last year, there will be times tables certificates for pupils increasing their score by 10% or more. 'Star of the Class' certificates will be awarded fortnightly. These will be presented for any aspect of school life to set good examples and encourage others.

Lingfield Library

Ironically, at a time we are refurbishing our school library and making improvements, the village library is under threat of closure along with many others across the county! I would like you to know that a website has been set up to raise a protest against these closures. The website can be found at <http://www.savesurreylibraries.org>. Let us all hope Surrey CC will think again.

Autumn Term Class Assemblies For Parents - THURSDAYS

We have changed the day of the week when we invite parents to class assemblies to a Thursday. You are invited to attend your child's class assembly. These are opportunities for you to see work and hear about some of the things the children have been learning in class. The assemblies will be related to the 'Context for Learning'. The assemblies are not polished performances and in most cases have been put together fairly quickly. However, it gives you an insight into the children's learning and the children an opportunity to perform in public. All Thursday assemblies start at 9.15 a.m.

Thursday 20th October – 3B

Thursday 3rd November – Year 6

Thursday 10th November – 2I

Thursday 1st December – Year 5

and Thursday 8th December – 4C

Health and Safety

Two matters have been brought to my attention since the start of the new term which are of a health and safety concern. Firstly, please do not walk across the kitchen / visitors car park. This is highly dangerous and there is a convenient pedestrian path next to it that is safe. Secondly, several dogs have been brought on to the school grounds. This is strictly against Surrey CC and school rules. We ask that you remain on the pavement outside of school if you have a dog when delivering or collecting your child. It is not acceptable to carry a dog in your arms and enter the school premises.

Teachers from Zambia Visiting

It has been necessary to delay the five Zambian teachers visit to Lingfield to the new year due to the length of time it is taking to gain visas. It is now anticipated they will visit in April 2012. As soon as I have a firm date I will inform you. Thank you to those families who have expressed a wish to be a host family. I will write to you personally as soon as I have information that will be of interest to you. We could still do



with two more offers of help with this. If you can host a Zambian teacher for a week or even two please let the school office know and I will add you to the list.

Headlice and Nits

I ask all parents to check their child's hair this weekend as we have had several notifications of headlice and nits in school. Please check your child's hair on a regular basis.

KS2 Procedures

While we encourage parents of KS2 children to say 'goodbye' at the school outside door this does not stop you from seeing the class teacher briefly with concerns or to arrange a meeting. The teacher is likely to be busy teaching first thing in the morning, but it only takes a few seconds to arrange an after school appointment. We have an 'open door' policy. If you have any concerns about your child, see the class teacher in the first instance.

School Uniform Shop – Advance notice of temporary closures

Please ensure that your child is appropriately attired for school, including PE kit. Symon & Yvonne Elias continue to run the school uniform shop which is open on Mondays from 9 a.m. and Thursdays from 3.15 p.m. Details of uniform, including costs, can be found on the order form. Order forms can be obtained from the school office. It is essential that all uniform items, including coats, are labelled so that we can easily return them to the owner when found. However, the school uniform shop will not be open on Monday 3rd October, Monday 14th and Thursday 17th November.

Nestles Cereal Box Tokens

Just to remind you that we are still collecting the nestles Cereal Box tokens for books. Last year we collected 600 and we are hoping to manage to improve on that this year.

Lingfield Pupils' Triathlon Mission - Reminder

Two Year 6 pupils, Emily Marchant and Else Speed, have decided to take part in the Hever Castle triathlon on 24th September, swimming 100 metres, cycling 4K and running 1.3K. I wish them well and ask if anyone wishes to sponsor them, to sign up on the sheet just inside the children's entrance. They want to use any money raised to support improvements to the school library. Good luck to them both!

Apply for a school place – Reception Class and Year 7 Secondary School September 2011

The Local Authority now send Early Years establishments and all Primary Schools a supply of leaflets to distribute to parents. These leaflets will give information on the admissions process and encourage parents to apply online wherever possible. The admissions Booklets "Primary Admissions: September 2012" and "Secondary Admissions: September 2012" will be available on Surrey County Council's website: www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions, or alternatively parents can ring the Contact Centre for a copy on 0300 200 1015. The booklets will not be provided in large quantities for distribution by schools, as in previous years. There are no changes to the way parents receive information for children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs.

School Fund – REMINDER FOR NEXT WEEK

Many schools have a 'School Fund Day' once a term to assist the coffers in a number of ways. Two years ago we introduced such a scheme, with school governors' approval. Please can you help boost our school fund to pay for playground resources? We would like to replace balls, hoops, skipping ropes and the like, for the children to play with at playtimes. As last year, the school budget is particularly challenging to manage this year and we hope you will agree to support us in this way. We need to raise £300 to purchase the resources we need. All children across the school will benefit. You will find a return form at the end of this newsletter and we would be very grateful if you would send in your donations during the week of 26th September, payable to Lingfield Primary School Trust. If you are a tax payer please sign the declaration which means we are able to claim back basic rate tax relief which will help us even more. Thank you in anticipation.

Lingfield Nature Reserves – REMINDER

I would like to draw your attention to two events being organised by the Lingfield Nature Reserves in the near future. Firstly, on Sunday 2nd October, a 'Seed Hunt and Wildflower Planting' event will take place between 2 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. Sign in with your child by 2 p.m. at the Field Shelter. Please bring some hand trowels for the planting. There will also be a free treasure hunt for the children. There will be stewards on duty to help the children. Secondly, on Sunday 22nd November, The National Tree Week event will take place from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Details will be sent to you later in the term.

If you have any queries or concerns please contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Ron Gandolfo
Headteacher.