



LINGFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Partners in Learning
Headteacher Mr Ron Gandolfo Bed
Email: info@lingfield.surrey.sch.uk

Vicarage Road
Lingfield
Surrey
RH7 6HA
Tel: 01342 832626
Fax: 01342 836167

NAME

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Dear Parents,

Attendance

You will be aware from the last two school newsletters that we are making a huge effort to ensure that school attendance is improved, this involves zero tolerance of children with persistent absence. In addition to this, you will all be aware that family holidays, during term time, are discouraged and not authorised. When the Ofsted inspectors visited during March 2010 they deemed our attendance to be only satisfactory. Hence our efforts to improve our attendance figures to be judged at least good when the inspectors next visit. We can only do this with your help and assistance. We need to ensure our overall absence is no more than 5.5% across the whole school year. Parents should also be aware that the Local Authority can serve a penalty notice for one of two reasons. Firstly, persistent lateness, following warnings from school; your child must be in school on time. Secondly, routine family holidays taken during term time. A penalty notice under one of these circumstances is served by the local authority which will result in a fine. Each week we will display the weekly attendance percentage figure so that we can keep an eye on how we are doing and help us all be determined to achieve this target. Please do not allow your child to be the victim of valuable lost learning time. We are extending the number of attendance certificates we award by rewarding children with 97 to 100% each half term, not termly as in previous years.

Harvest Festival

On Thursday 13th October we will be celebrating Harvest and Reverend Jenny Attwood will be leading us. Please could the children bring in loose change to school on this day; coins of all denominations. The children in each class will count the money and create 'towers' of coins in the gym. The money will be sent to 'Open House', a charity based in Three Bridges for the homeless and lonely. The Harvest Assembly will start at 10.30 a.m. and Orchard Court residents will also be in attendance. A few parents of the children who will be reading will be invited this year. I apologise, that we cannot invite everyone, but lack of space prevents us from doing this.

Parents' Evenings

This term's parents' evenings are on Tuesday 8th November 3.30 to 6 p.m. and Thursday 10th November 5.30 to 8 p.m. (Except class 3B who have already received a separate letter). There will be a separate letter to return to your child's class teacher to indicate your preferred time. I urge all parents to discuss their child's progress with the class teacher. If you have any concerns, worries or queries regarding your child, please do not automatically wait until parents' evening. I suggest that you see the class teacher after school one evening. Please try to avoid Mondays as we have a staff meeting each week.

Lingfield Pupils' Triathlon Success

You will know from the last newsletter that two Year 6 pupils, Emily Marchant and Else Speed, took part in the Hever Castle Triathlon recently, swimming 100 metres, cycling 4K and running 1.3K. I am delighted to tell you they raised an amazing £467.86 after successfully completing the course. This is a fabulous achievement and I congratulate them. They want the money raised to support improvements to the school library. Next week they will be helping Mrs Dervishi, School Librarian, to choose new books for the library. Congratulations also to Abianne & Scarlet Coats who also took part in the Triathlon. Perhaps we could have a Lingfield Team entering next year if sufficient interest grows? Certainly, entering a triathlon is no mean feat, but it's good to set high goals and reap the benefits as a few of our children have already shown.

Instrumental Music Lessons

Does your child show an interest or aptitude for playing a musical instrument? We currently have three children keen to start violin lessons, but we need three more pupils to join them so that Surrey CC supply



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Surrey County Council



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

a dedicated music teacher to start lessons. If you would like your child to learn to play the violin do contact the South East Music Centre directly on 01372 832912. You can speak to an assistant who will give you the up to date costs, which I know are very reasonable.

School Council News

Mrs Martin, HLTA, and I meet with the School Council children each week. We have been most impressed with their hard work and tenacity in organising events for the children as well as providing a 'listening ear' to younger children's concerns. They are proving to be a highly proactive group of councillors. They have started to paint the Buddy Bench as well as wanting to support the Operation Christmas Child Charity and work with one of the school Governors, Mrs Marshall. The following events have been arranged (i) Mufti Day on Thursday 20th October to support Operation Christmas Child. School clothes can be swapped for dressing as a sports personality for the day in return for either £1 or good quality small toys that can be placed in a shoe box for needy children at Christmas. (ii) Children's Disco on Friday 21st October, usual timings, EYFS and KS1 5 to 6 p.m. then KS2 from 6.15 to 7.30 p.m. (iii) A Lingfield's got Talent contest to be organised the second week after half term during the lunch breaks.

Apply for a school place – Reception Class and Year 7 Secondary School September 2012

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 Greenhouse

Year 3 (as part of their context 'What a Load of Rubbish') are building a greenhouse for the kitchen garden, made from recycled materials. We are still in need donations of clean 2 litre plastic drinks bottles. There is a box at the children's entrance for bottles as well as the patio entrance. It would be really helpful, but not essential, if parents could cut the bottom off the bottles - there is an example for people to see.

Plastic Bottles and Cereal Boxes

For one of the year 6 science activities this term we need your help in collecting resources. Please send into school 2 litre plastic bottles with their tops and cereal boxes. We need large numbers of these items; please help! There will be a large container next to the children's entrance for you to leave these items. Thank you in anticipation.

Be Child Cancer Aware

Be 'Child Cancer Aware' have issued our school with awareness cards highlighting the main signs and symptoms of cancer in children and teenagers. Whilst the card is not designed to frighten anyone, it is important that parents are made aware of the signs. More than 4,000 children and teenagers are diagnosed with cancer in the UK each year and cancer in this age group is particularly difficult to diagnose. By being aware you could potentially save your child's life or the life of a child you know. Earlier diagnosis saves lives. Please visit the BCCA website www.bechildcanceraware.org

School Web Site and Newsletters

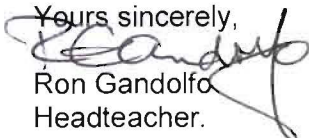
If you misplace a school newsletter you can view it, along with other information, via the school web site at www.lingfieldschool.com

Holiday Dates – Reminder

The Half Term break is from Monday 24th to Friday 28th October, followed by two inset days Monday 31st October and Tuesday 1st November. The children should return to school on Wednesday 2nd November. You can find a complete list of this year's term dates on the school website. (A copy of the sheet sent home last term.) Alternatively, another copy can be collected from the school office.

If you have any queries or concerns please contact me.

Yours sincerely,


Ron Gandolfo
Headteacher.