



LINGFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Partners in Learning
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SPRING TERM 2011 NEWSLETTER NUMBER 1

14th January 2011

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new calendar year and new school term I wish you all a belated Happy New Year.

The School Family

Many of you will know that the Ormandy family were involved in a serious car accident just before we returned to school last week. I would like to thank the many parents involved in supporting the family at this stressful time. It is very reassuring that so many caring people have teamed together to support friends at this time of need. We all wish the family a speedy recovery and we are thinking of them at this difficult time.

Extreme Weather Conditions

The snow caused huge disruption for everybody last term. Closing the school was most unsatisfactory way to finish the term with the school closed. In case snow and ice become more frequent weather conditions during our winter months, we need to put plans in to place for the future, so that we are ready to keep the school open. Of course, there is still the possibility that the weather will get the better of us and we will need to close, but my intention, if at all possible, is to be open. Some parents have telephoned the school very early (e.g. 7 a.m.) before a decision has been made. Part of the decision making is dependent on staff being able to get to school. I have asked staff to inform me by 7 a.m., therefore a message on the telephone answering machine and the school website will be posted by 7.30 a.m., if at all possible, informing parents of the decision. Mrs Marlow will clear at least one entrance so that it is safe to walk in to school. If you live locally and can walk and would be willing to help Mrs Marlow to clear the school playground and car park this would be much appreciated. Please send an email to newsletter@lingfield.surrey.sch.uk stating that you would be willing to assist.

Year 6 School Council News

The School Council have reorganised the children's disco for Friday 21st January. The Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 disco is from 5 to 6 p.m. and the Key Stage 2 disco is from 6.15 to 7.30 p.m. The theme, 'Whacky Wonders' is being encouraged, but is not compulsory. Kevin Staples, our usual DJ, will be providing the music. The entry fee is £1.50, which includes a sweet and a drink.

Promoting Science to Children

1. Science Museum Live on Tour - Parents might like to know that The Hawth Theatre in Crawley are hosting the Science Museum Live on Tour on 25th March at 7 p.m. The same show is being hosted at The Fairfield Halls in Croydon on 14th & 15th March. Tickets are £12.50.

2. Oxted School Science Fair – Oxted School are continuing to host a series of free talks on complementary and alternative therapies on Monday evenings 6.30 to 7.30 from 17th January. They are also organising 'grow your own vegetables' sessions beginning on Tuesday 8th February.

Two Day Science Extravaganza

On the 8th and 9th February we will be involving all KS1 and KS2 children in a two days of Science, concentrating on the themes of communication and forces. Further details will follow from our science co-ordinator, Mrs Cook.

Pupil Premium

Many you will have heard of the new Government 'Pupil Premium' to boost some schools funding. This is worked out, in part, on parent's eligibility to free school meals. We are aware that some parents, although entitled to free school meals, do not take this up. In future this will affect our funding. If you are entitled to free school meals, but do not wish to take this up, I ask you to write to me, in confidence, so that can at least we can pass on correct figures for Lingfield PS. Thank you in anticipation.

Education City

Last year some parents subscribed to EducationCity. As the previous subscription has now expired we would like to re offer this opportunity to all. EducationCity is a resource that we have in school, but there is also a version that can be subscribed to and used at home. EducationCity provide fun educational games in the form of online activities for children and interactive whiteboard resources for teachers. They are inspiring, engaging and have won many awards in education circles. EducationCity is ideal for children aged between 3 and 12 years old, as well as for older children with special needs (SEN). The games and resources are ideal for use at school or



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home and consist of highly engaging interactive activities including revision and assessment tools. A mathematics homework module for independent learning is available for parents to purchase at £2 per pupil. You might like to take a look at their website before making a decision. If you would like to purchase the homework module please send in £2 (per pupil), marking the envelope EducationCity, with your child's name/s and class clearly printed by Friday 4th February. Please visit www.educationcity.com to discover more.

LPSA Request

The Lingfield Primary School Parents' Association have asked permission for the school to release parents' email addresses so that they can more easily communicate with you in the same way as the school. I think this is a very good idea, though I must ask you to opt out if you do not agree. Therefore, if you do not agree with your email address being passed to the LPSA, please contact the school office and let us know.

School Footwear

I ask parents not to send their children to school in 'Ugg boots'. These boots are not part of the school uniform code and such footwear is out of place and inappropriate for the school environment.

After School Care Club

ASCC invoices have been sent out this week. Please check your child's bag if they have not handed it to you. Prompt payment would be much appreciated.

Make A Difference Day

Following a previous very successful 'Make Difference Day' in May 2009 we have decided to have another! On Saturday 5th February from 9.30 a.m. we hope to be able to create a 'Kitchen Garden' in the courtyard area and make improvements to the children's playground. Please keep the 5th February free and come and help us. The reason we are holding this in February is that the 'Kitchen Garden' needs creating now ready for the children to use in the spring. The new gardening club will maintain this area and all classes will have opportunities to use it, in a similar way to the new pond area, with links to each year group's Context for Learning.

Morrison Vouchers

Thank you to parents who collected and sent the Morrison vouchers in to school. 1755 vouchers were collected. We have purchased; auto irrigation kit, hand forks and trowels, a broom, watering cans and an apple tree. All these items will be used in the kitchen and wildlife gardens.

Art Exhibition

There will be an exhibition of children's art in the gym, after school on Thursday 17th March. You will have an opportunity to purchase your child's framed work. Mrs Barlow, our art co-ordinator, will send out further details nearer the time.

School Bus Service

This is to remind parents that the Lingfield Primary School bus service (along with other schools' bus services) will be withdrawn from September 2011. The County Council's Cabinet met last July, to consider the future of School Special services. The number of parental and school responses to the consultation was very high and it is clear that the services are highly valued. However, County Council services are under enormous pressure. Funding from central government to SCC could be reduced by £70m over 4 years. The County Council already faces a funding gap of £180 m per year and the recent announcement of £6 billion reduction nationally adds to even more pressure. It is in the context of these financial pressures that the Cabinet made its decision.

Poppy Appeal

Thank you to all those children and parents who contributed to the Lingfield School Poppy appeal. £111.66 was raised to support The Royal British Legion. A total of £5,421.73 was raised throughout Lingfield Village.

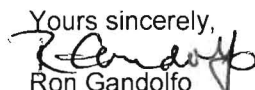
Holiday Dates

We no longer list school holiday dates in the newsletter as they are easily accessible from the school website. If you require a hard copy please ask at the school office. However, please note the extra inset day, on Friday 8th April 2011. There is also an additional Bank Holiday on Friday 29th April for the Royal Wedding.

School Dinner Money Spring Term 2011

School meals cost £64.60 for the first half of the term and £70.30 for the second half. This is a total of £134.90 for the whole term. Please pay promptly to support the hard working office staff. Cheques should be made payable to Lingfield Primary School.

If you have any queries or concerns please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Ron Gandolfo
Headteacher.