

Bincombe Valley Primary School/

Newsletter 41- 14th September 2006



Dear Parents,

The first week back has gone really well with all the children having settled in. Year 6 pupils have selected the School Council members, so I would like to wish them well with this responsible position.

After school Clubs.

Please note that the Badminton club begins the week after half term not next week. Football and Netball clubs for Year 5 and 6 continue on Tuesdays.

The Games Club for Years 3 and 4 begins next Thursday from 3.00 to 4.00 p.m.

A tag rugby club also begins next Thursday 21st September for Year 5 and 6.

Art club for Juniors is next Wednesday with Mrs Staddon from 3.00 – 4.00 p.m.

Newspaper Club is next Thursday with Mrs Varndell from 3.00- 4.00 p.m.

French Club for Year 2 to 6 is next Friday 22nd September after school for 30 minutes with Madame Le Blanc (Mrs White).

C.L.I.C. Leukaemia Charity Walk

One of our pupils, who has been rather poorly recently, has been much in our thoughts. Miss Hardy the nursery teacher is doing a sponsored walk on Sunday in aid of the CLIC Sargent Care Charity who are supporting the family. If you would like to sponsor Miss Hardy's efforts please call in at the Nursery or school office.

P.E Kit and Gymnastics

It is great to see the pupils smartly dressed for P.E. but I would ask that all items be marked with their name. A reminder - kit is a simple white shirt and dark shorts. From 25th September the pupils in Nursery, Reception, Year 2 and Year 3 will receive gymnastic lessons from a British Amateur Gymnastics coach. This has been organised through the local sports partnership and Mrs Wilen.

Meeting the teacher

Next Tuesday 19th September, we invite all parents to meet their child's class teacher and learn a little about the work they are following through the year, activities that will be taking place and how you can support their child. The class meetings last only 15 minutes. The Infant (KS1) classes begin at 2.40 and the juniors (KS2) begin at 3.05 p.m. so if you have children in both age groups you can attend the meetings. If you have more than one child in a key stage please arrange a different time or arrange for mum to visit one class and dad the other.

Pedal Power.

Mrs Cobb and Miss Roper are looking for any unwanted two-wheel bikes for children in reception class to use. If you have one to donate then please contact either teacher directly.

Absence from school.

We have been asked by the Department for Education & Science (DfES) to improve the absence rates from school. Parents can request 10 school days for annual family holiday leave and the school governors have passed to me the responsibility for approval of such leave. As a school we would always prefer our pupils **not to** have holiday during term time but fully understand why it happens. Please help us by making sure that you complete an application form (available from the office) and provide an explanatory reason on the back of the form. If your child is ever absent from school please contact us to let us know why. If children are absent and we don't hear we will get in touch with you. We will continue to recognise children with high levels of attendance and present them with certificates each term.

First Aid Training

Several members of staff will undertake first aid training next week to keep them well up to date and able to support your children should an emergency arise.

Rights Respecting Schools.

At the end of last term, Miss Whiteman reported to me the key findings of the parental survey. I list them below:

- The majority of parents think the school is very good/ brilliant/ excellent!
- Most parents feel the school praises and disciplines the children well
- Although most parents thought there was good communication between the home and school there was a need for more notice of events and less educational 'speak'.
- The parents would like toilet facilities available to them and younger children and a shelter during wet weather. This will be discussed at the next Governor's meeting.

Magic Drum Music Activity.

This takes place for children next Friday 22nd September. Our thanks to the PTFA who have funded this event

School term dates

Autumn Term

Wednesday 6th September to Wednesday 20th December 2006

Half term 23rd to 27th October 2006

Spring Term

Thursday 4th January to Friday 30th March 2007

Half term Friday 16th then 19 to 23 February 2007

Summer Term

Tuesday 17th April to Friday 20th July 2007

Half Term 28th June to 1st July 2007



Regards

Les Strong, Head teacher