



TITCHMARSH CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

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23rd October 2008

Dear Parents

HALF TERM UPDATE

Harvest Festival

Everybody really enjoyed our British Harvest Festival. The children performed their songs and poems perfectly. Many thanks to the children and staff for their hard work making it look so easy! Thank you again to Mrs Eve for playing the piano for us. You were as always very generous with your donations of Harvest produce, which were distributed the following afternoon. We have received many thank you cards and letters from the recipients of the gifts. Therefore may I pass on those thanks to you.

Open Morning

If you came to our Open Morning, I hope you enjoyed being part of the celebrations surrounding the raising of the ECO Green Flag. If you had the opportunity to surf the new website, I hope you found it more accessible, clearer and brighter than the last website, which took an age to upload information on to. I feel confident to update the website more frequently and hopefully by the end of the week after some training, staff will also feel the same. It is our intention for children to eventually contribute too. You will find in the section *Parents*, a page which will link you to our newsletters through the year, which I hope you will find helpful. Have a browse yourself. The website address remains the same www.titchmarshprimaryschool.com.

Ice Cream Parlour

The summer term seems along time ago, however everybody remembers ice cream Friday, thanks to Mrs Swan and her band of willing helpers. We have managed to raise £240 which we will spend purchasing 4 floor robots for Year 3&4 called Pro-Bots (The big brothers of our Bee-Bots!).

Connecting Classroom Project

In February 2006 we embarked on a British Council project called Connecting Classrooms. We were visited by teachers from our partnering schools in Kenya and South Africa. The children enjoyed the experience of meeting people from other countries and cultures and learning about schools very different to our own. Last year, at half term, Mrs Grantham travelled to Cape Town with two other teachers from our UK partnership, for the second part of the Connecting

Classrooms Project. This half term she travels to an area near Nairobi, Kenya on the final part of the project. Again this has been fully funded by the British Council. She will be presenting 'Life at Titchmarsh School' to our Kenyan partners, taking lots of photographs and bringing artefacts back to school. We wish her a safe return and look forward to learning about life in villages very different to our own.

Activity Day

Our next Literacy activity day will be on Tuesday 11th November. The theme agreed by staff is to be "Myths and Legends." This will consist of using adventure stories from a time long ago e.g. George and the Dragon, Merlin or Robin Hood as a focus for our day.

A programme of stimulating, challenging and enjoyable literacy activities using ICT, drama, cookery is being planned. If your child wishes to attend school in costume this would be wonderful but not compulsory.

Hall of Fame for Autumn Term 2

Author	-	Dick King Smith
Artist	-	Barbara Hepworth
Composer	-	Antonio Vivaldi

Church Services

You are welcome to attend our Church Services with the Reverend Mynors. The next one will be on the 12th November at 9.15am.

School Photographs

As you may remember from the Calendar of Dates, school photographs will be on Friday 14th November. Preschool children are welcome to have photographs with their older siblings as well as individual. As always, there is no obligation to buy. Class photographs will be in Summer Term next year.

Second Half of Autumn Term

There will be a training day for staff on Monday 3rd November. School reopens at 9.00am Tuesday 4th November. During this part of the half term we also look forward to School Council elections on Friday 14th November. Our Formal Open Evening is on Wednesday 19th November from 6.30pm - 8.00pm. Appointments will be organised after half term.

The next FOTS meeting will be at 7.00pm on Wednesday 12th November. Welcome and thanks to Mrs Levick and Mrs Skerrit, who have taken on the roles of chair and secretary respectively. Mrs Gambrell is now vice chair and Mrs Reeves remains treasurer.

Transfer Day

The transfer day, when all children move up to their new classes and schools in the summer term has been changed from the 13th July to the 6th July 2009.

Health and Safety

A gentle reminder, that cars should not be parked directly outside the school or on the junction of School Lane and Chapel Street. Cars should be parked from the red brick wall around the corner on Chapel Street. This is still particularly

pertinent at the moment with the ongoing road works on Church Street and School Lane. I thank you for your assistance in this matter.

The Maths Workshop was a great success on Tuesday. We are so lucky to be able to call upon Mrs Wendy Edwards a Numeracy Advisor for support and advice. Sadly we said au revoir to Ms Tetley in her role as French Teacher/Tutor as unfortunately she has been transferred to the Kettering area to give support there. We hope she will be able to come back and see us from time to time. Many thanks go to Dr Montague for all his help with our garden. He has worked very hard this week preparing our garden for the winter. Thanks also to Mr Richard Lenton of Lenton Garden Services for donating his time and flowers, filling our tubs to make the outside area look pretty during the winter months.

This term has flown by. Congratulations to all our children and staff for settling into their new classes and a particular well done to our Owlets who have had a very successful first term of school life. Welcome to Miss Huxtable, one of our newest lunchtime supervisors.

If you have any questions or queries about any of the above please do not hesitate to contact me. We look forward to receiving manifestoes for those wishing to stand for election of our 4th School Council. Electronic copies of the manifesto can be found on our website.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Milton

