



TITCHMARSH CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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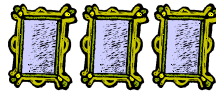
12th February 2009

Dear Parents,

TERM 3 NEWSLETTER



We are now halfway through the academic year. Where has the first half gone? School closes at 3.30pm on Friday 13th February and reopens on Monday 23rd February 2009.



CORRIDOR OF FAME FOR TERM 4:-

Artist: Paul Klee
Composer: Paul Simon
Author: Shirley Hughes

We welcome information gathered at home and brought to school for a display in the corridor to share with our pupils. Thank you for the many items brought to school for this half term's Corridor of Fame, you are welcome to begin collecting them.



MATHS LIBRARY'S 1ST BIRTHDAY

The Maths Library opened its doors for the first time on 31st January 2008. A year has flown by! We are delighted by how successful it has been and continues to be. To celebrate its 1st birthday, a little belatedly, we will be having a little celebration in the maths library on 25th February at 3.30pm. There will be a birthday cake and refreshments. Donations for food and drink will be warmly welcomed and proceeds will go towards purchasing new maths games.

Many thanks to FOTS for their continued support purchasing maths games and Mrs Gill for her kind donation of a maths game. Also thanks to all the people who help to make the library run so smoothly.



ECO ACTION TEAM

The ECO action team has been meeting regularly since the beginning of the year. Minutes can be found on the school website, along with a gallery of events they have

organised. They are working hard to raise funds for picnic benches for the school. The cake sale last Thursday raised an amazing £116. The Northamptonshire Garden Trust is kindly funding Mrs Stopps to attend a very worthwhile course focussing on school gardens in the early years.



SCHOOL COUNCIL

The School Council meet every three weeks to discuss ongoing projects and suggestions from fellow pupils. The minutes of each meeting can also be found on the school website. At the last meeting, the School Council helped to design the new school sports kit to be used by Year 3 & 4 at tournaments. They have also organised the new house badges which can now be purchased at school. Using School Council funds, they purchased bird boxes worth £75.



SECTION 48 INSPECTION

The inspection on January 27th went extremely well. The inspector was very impressed, particularly with our links with the community our Christian family ethos and of course our children. The report will follow shortly.



ACTIVE MARK 2008

For the 3rd year running we have been awarded our Active mark. This is awarded when 90% or more of pupils across the school are doing at least 2 hours high quality PE and school sport a week.



ICT MARK

On Wednesday 11th February, we were assessed for official recognition of the ICT Mark, by an external BECTA assessor. The ICT Mark is a national accreditation scheme which recognises schools for their achievements in the use of technology. I will inform you of the result in due course.



BOOK FAIR

This was an extremely well supported occasion and proved to be our most successful yet. We were able to take 76 books from the bookshelves to increase the range on offer in our classrooms and library.

BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS

We are participating in the *Books for Schools* promotion being run by The Times and Sunday Times newspapers. We would appreciate your support in collecting the tokens which are printed daily, and can be exchanged for books which our children can enjoy. A collecting box is available in our main corridor - please help us fill it up!



GOVERNING BODY

The governing body of the school are very committed to supporting the school, staff, children and parents. For this reason, we have organised a timetable of events which at least one governor will attend. The website now has a photograph to go alongside the name of each governor and soon each will have a brief personal summary attached. The intention of this is to make the governors more familiar to all the families at our school, so that we can continue to work together so effectively.



DATES

School opens: 23rd February

Year 3 & 4 St John's Ambulance training: 23rd February

FOTS meeting: 24th February

Informal Open Evening: 3rd March

World Book Day with a Pirates Theme: 5th March

Parents Sharing Assembly: 12th March

Pamper Evening: 13th March

Red Nose Day: 13th March

Church: 4th and 18th March

Year 3 & 4 Residential trip: 25th March

All dates can be found on the calendar section of the school website.

The last week or so has been quite challenging, due to the unpredictable and treacherous weather conditions. The decision to close a school is never taken lightly, and sometimes our English weather surprises us all and a good call is often luck more than judgement! However, I am happy with the decisions we have made regarding the snowy conditions over the last 10 days, I hope you have been too. I also hope that the 'Titchmarsh Telegraph' and our school website were an effective means of keeping you up to date. If you have any comments or suggestions, I would be happy to listen, ready for next year!!

Many of the events which have happened this term can be viewed on our website, along with past newsletters and minutes of meetings. We look forward to another exciting and eventful term.

As always, if you have any questions, issues or concerns you wish to discuss with me, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Milton

