


FIRSIDE JUNIOR SCHOOL

YEAR 6 January Newsletter.

13 January 2012

Middleton's Lane, Hellesdon, NORWICH, NR6 5NF
 01603 426550

Headteacher: Mr S. J. Fisher
deputy Head: Mrs R. Robinson

Dear Parent,

Happy New Year and welcome back!

We hope everyone had a restful holiday. Certainly, the children seem to have returned refreshed, keen and eager to learn. Of course the New Year is a natural time to look ahead and think about what the future holds. Our assemblies (and PSHE lessons) this half-term focus on 'Going for Goals'. We want children to have high aspirations and set goals for themselves – and then help them take steps to reaching them! The London Olympics and Paralympics are a real inspiration for this and in Monday's assembly we watched a short video of Jonnie Peacock who is a truly inspirational Paralympic sprinter. One of our mottos in school is that *every day, every child* should achieve something they feel proud of and we are sure with continuing hard work and support the children will achieve their dreams!

2012 is not only the year in which we celebrate the Jubilee and the Olympics but also the school's 75th anniversary year! We are planning some exciting ways to involve everyone in our celebrations and look forward to telling you about them as the year unfolds.

Year 6 News

We really enjoyed our first term of Year 6 and are all pleased with the progress everyone is making.

The spring term is a busy and important term for all of Year 6. The children are building towards important assessments early in the summer term (the week starting Monday 14th May). Please do not take family holidays between now and then as any time lost will be detrimental. Please also remember that reading underpins everything and we still expect that pupils in Year 6 will read at least 4 times a week at home. Talking and asking questions about what your child is reading really helps develop reading skills further. Likewise, regular practise of times tables facts will really help pupils perform to the best of their abilities.

Our first project of the term is based on the Solar System and will end with an exhibition. We will then be looking at Fair Trade and hosting a Fairtrade Café for parents before the Easter holidays, where you will be invited to come and buy Fairtrade products made by the children and served by the children.

We also look forward to our residential trip to Kingswood in the summer term (the week starting Monday 21st May), the balance for which is due by the 30th March.

You will be aware that a slight staffing adjustment has been made this term: from now until the SAT tests in May, Mrs Robinson is providing extra teaching support in our Year group. This has allowed us to create small group teaching in the final lead up to the tests in May.

Reminders:

- Indoor PE kit for Wednesday (change of top, shorts, plimsolls or bare feet).
- Games kit for Thursday (tracksuit bottoms and warm sweatshirt).
- Pencils and blue handwriting pens can be bought from the school office.
- Please record the reading you do with your child in their Learning Journals.
- Please ensure Learning Journals come to school every day, especially Monday and Friday.

Bad Weather and School Closures:

We have had a remarkably mild winter so far but IF the school is ever forced to close we will notify parents via the county website and local radio. Closing the school is always the very last resort and you may safely assume that the school is open unless a message is sent out as set out above.

Diary

January

Mon	9 th	EA Tennis: after school tennis club taster (Yr3&4)..... morning
Tues	10 th	Matt Philpott, Physical Fitness afterschool club (Yr5&6)..... assembly time
Wed	11 th	School Team to take part in Sports Hall Athletics competition - Yr 5& 6
Tues	17 th	FOF meeting 9:15 (in meeting room)
Thurs	19 th	Group of children take part in Tree Planting at Community Centre p.m.
Wed	25 th	Year 4 - Family Lunch
Fri	27 th	Road Safety workshops with road safety officer

February

Wed	1 st	Coffee & Chat – Parents forum in Dining Hall 9:00
	"	Year 5 & 6 - Family Lunch
Tues	7 th	Major Murray (Salvation Army) Year 5&6 Assembly
Wed	8 th	Year 5, Roman Day – Parents invited for the afternoon p.m.
Thur	9 th	Major Murray (Salvation Army) Year 3&4 Assembly
Mon	13 th	Half-term week
Tue	21 st	Year 3 – Family Lunch

Join the library....

Join Up January is a great chance to find out more about what your local library can offer your family.

It's free to join the library and really easy. You can do it online at www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries or visit your local library and staff will join you up in just a few minutes. If you have ID with you showing your name and address that's great, but even if you don't you can borrow a couple of books!

The library has lots of story books including picture books and easier stories for new readers. There are loads of other things to enjoy, like books on football, music, animation, and 'how things work' as well as books on TV series and films, graphic novels, comics and magazines. There are also children's DVDs and DS and other games to try as well as events and activities for both children and adults.

Friendly staff are on hand to help your child find something that will interest them. Staff can also let you know about books and websites you can use at the library or at home to help with homework.

For more information visit your local library, call 0344 800 8006 or visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries

.....and let the story begin



Parent Support Adviser

Mrs Nada Goodings has now started in her role as Cluster Parent Support Adviser. We are delighted to welcome her and we are sure she will be a real help to everyone. A leaflet is available in school – and is illustrated here -->

Parent Support Adviser (PSA)

Parenting isn't an easy job and at times things can get tough. Like every parent you want what is best for your child.

Parent Support Advisers are here to help families deal with issues, worries or concerns. We may not have all the answers but together we can explore ways forward.




The Benjamin Foundation
Working in partnership with the Hellesdon Cluster of Schools.

Parent Support Advisers can:

- Support you when you meet with teachers or other professionals
- Help prevent difficult behaviour from becoming more of a problem
- Find Services and other Agencies available to help families
- Help parents understand how and what their children learn
- Aid and encourage good attendance
- Foster positive relationships between home and school
- Meet to talk where you feel most comfortable

Contact your local Parent Support Adviser:



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