



Emersons Green Primary School
NEWSLETTER NO. 7 - 16th October 2009

Play Meeting

Thank you to the parents who did come along to this meeting. Their contributions were greatly appreciated. We had hoped to see a few more faces. The children playing outside had a marvellous time and it was good to see children playing and contributing their own ideas of what they wanted and enjoyed about 'play'. We have received some donations of sheets and it was great to see the children making dens and then wrapping each other up like 'mummies' and then rolling down the mud slide! Great Fun!

Can you help?

We have received a few items, but really would welcome more donations of old sheets/blankets/crates/tyres/drainpipes/guttering/clothes-horse or any other items that you feel would be useful to encourage the children in creative play.

Green Contact Forms

We have not received all the Yr.1 green forms back yet. Please help us by completing them over the weekend and returning to school next week. We are sending home Yr.2 and Yr.3 this week and hope to have all these returned before the half-term break. Many thanks for your help with this.

Yr.6 Residential Trip to Morfa Bay

Children from Yr. 6 will be given the opportunity to go on our annual residential trip to Morfa Bay in Wales. There will be a meeting on Monday 19th October at 3.30pm, in the school hall to discuss this further. Staff from Morfa Bay will be attending and will be telling us all about the events planned for the week and will answer any worries or queries you may have.



Harvest - Reminder

You are all welcome to join us for our Harvest Festival Assembly on Tuesday 20th October at 2.00pm. We will be looking forward to seeing as many parents as possible and hope you will enjoy sharing Harvest with us. At the end of the festival we will sell off our harvest produce. We distribute our lovely harvest loaf amongst the children on Tuesday - so everyone has a taster. If your child has any allergies please let us know.

Peer Mentors

We have now trained a new set of Peer Mentors from Year 5 and 6 to support all our children at playtimes. This scheme has been running for several years and each year we find the support of the peer mentoring team increasingly valuable. The duty team wear fluorescent bibs so can easily be spotted should your child need support at playtimes or lunchtimes.

Be Safe Be Seen

The clocks are due to go back in the early hours of Sunday 25 October 2009, so on Wednesday 21st October the Road Safety team is presenting a BE SAFE BE SEEN assembly. The aim is to encourage all children to wear something bright and take extra care when out and about near roads especially as the nights start to draw in and children become more vulnerable as they are less visible to motorists.

The key messages are:

- Be bright morning or night.
- Make sure you can be easily seen, especially at night, on dark days and in bad weather.
- Bright or fluorescent clothes show up best by day, especially in dull or misty weather.
- By night, reflective material is best and shows up in car headlights - fluorescent clothing doesn't work after dark. Reflective tape can be put on clothing, school bags and equipment.
- It is against the law to cycle at night without a white front light, a red back light and a red reflector at the back, so make sure all bikes are properly equipped and working.
- Cross the road at the safest place possible. e.g. zebra, pelican, puffin and patrolled crossings.
- Use the Green Cross Code: Stop, Look, Listen.
- If you are out at night, choose routes that are well-lit by streetlights and cross at well-lit places.

Following the assembly, there will be an after school sale of reflective items so please, bring your purses!

On 26 November, Years 3 and 6 will be taking part in road safety workshops. More information will follow.

Walk to school week - 9th November - (New date)

The school will be taking part in the forthcoming Walk to School Week in November. For a whole week, children all around the country will be walking to school to help cut pollution on the school-run.

We can all play an important role in supporting Walk to School Week, and we are delighted to support this initiative. Clearly, the distance children need to travel to school can affect their ability to take part, but there are ways for everyone to be involved. For example, if you drive your child or children to school, why not try parking away from the school and walking the last half mile or so? Simple ideas such as this can help cut school-gate congestion whilst improving the health of your child and yourself.

Walking to school is a great time to encourage children to think about common sense ways to deal with difficulties and stay safe. Parents and carers who walk with younger children might use it as an opportunity to think about things like:

- Choosing the safest place to cross the road;
- Thinking about hazards and dangers, such as driveways and parked cars;
- Watching other people crossing the road and talking about unsafe behaviour;
- Choosing well-used routes and avoiding out-of-view short-cuts.

We want our children to be safe, confident and independent, and walking to school is a healthy and environmentally friendly way to learn many invaluable life skills. I hope that you can - in some way - take part in Walk to School Week this November.

Temporary Cleaner

We are fortunate to employ our own school cleaners, but they do need to take holidays! We need to cover any occasional absences and if you would be interested in the post please contact Mrs Isaac for more information. It is generally 2 hours a day, but this is always in out of school hours.

Coffee Mornings

We are planning to hold a coffee morning once a term for parents who have an interest in Special Educational Needs, giving parents a chance to meet informally. The first meeting will be on Friday 23rd October at 9.30am in the Rainbow Room. Ann Jerrom from Supportive Parents will be there to talk about how her service can provide advice and information for parents and showing the 'SEN Partnership Manual'.

Remembrance Sunday

Children will be selling poppies all next week - please send in a minimum donation of 20p per poppy. Thank you.

Help for Stanbridge Primary School

Stanbridge Primary School are collecting the Cash for Schools tokens printed in the Evening Post Newspaper from 14th - 27th October. Please save all your tokens and give them to Mrs. Lockyer who will forward them on to Stanbridge.

Events!

We Will Rock You! - and didn't they just!! What a good night out, it seems everyone enjoyed the show and it was worth the wait. Not sure what we might find to go to next, but watch this space! Thanks to Mrs. Lockyer for organising this for us.

Christmas Magical Evening Event

We have booked tickets for 'The Enchanted Christmas'. This is a lovely evening event for all the family. Take an evening stroll through the magic of the Enchanted Wood at Westonbirt Arboretum. There will be carol singers, mince pies, roast chestnuts, mulled wine and if we are lucky a special visit from Father Christmas! The tickets will be valid from November 27 - 20th December. The events take place every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening during this period. The trail opens at 5.00pm and the last entry into the car park is 7.15pm. The Arboretum will be lit up and it really is a truly magical evening. We are very lucky to get discounted tickets and you can choose the date you wish to go to suit yourself and your family and friends. Tickets need to be ordered on the reply slip below and must be returned to the office by Wednesday 11th November. Adult tickets are £5.50 (normally £8.00) OAP's £4.50 (normally £7.00) and children £2.00 (normally £4.00). Under 5's are free. All family and friends are welcome - but unfortunately dogs are not allowed to this event.

Halloween

The community Police Officer will be visiting school on Monday to talk to the children about the dangers of trick or treat at Halloween. The Police are not intending to spoil anyone's fun, but will fully investigate any acts of criminal damage/anti-social behaviour. It is important to emphasise that many people, particularly the elderly, do not like tricks being played upon them and that children should be considerate of their feelings.

PTFA Events

Following the AGM on Monday the following appointments were made:

Mrs Vic Burchill and Mrs. Julia Dunn	-	Joint Chair
Mrs Angela Beard	-	Vice Chair
Mrs Andrea Hobbs	-	Treasurer
Mrs Alison Rawlings	-	Vice Treasurer
Mrs Jacqui MacKenzie	-	Secretary
Mrs Meryl Grimshaw	-	Vice Secretary

We welcome all new members to the PTFA and say a big thank you to our retiring officers, Mrs. Suni Norman, Mrs Jenny Ewins, and all the helpers who have done so much work for the school. Mrs Donna Allen, Mrs Karen Leach, Mrs Suni Norman and Mrs Jenny Ewins will be continuing to deal with the school uniform, for which we are extremely grateful!

The next PTFA meeting will be held at school Monday 16th November at 7.00pm.

Christmas Fair - 4th December 2009

Helpers still needed! Please come along to The Langley Arms on Monday 19th October at 8.00pm for an update on our plans and a social evening too! Contact Vic (07941 865850) or Julia (07525 900745) if you have any questions/offers of help.

Fireworks Party

We will be selling tickets for the Downend Round Table Fireworks Evening on Friday 6th November, gates open at 6.00pm. Members of the PTFA will be selling tickets after school all next week. You will find them by the playground gate. Tickets cost £3.00.

Arboretum Tickets

Please can I order _____ adult tickets at £5.50

_____ OAP tickets at £4.00

_____ child tickets at £2.00

I enclose cheque/cash for _____ made payable to Emersons Green Primary School.

I understand that I can use these tickets ONLY on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday night during the period 27th November - 20th December.

NAME OF CHILD: _____ CLASS: _____