



**EMERSONS GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**Newsletter No. 3 – 16th September 2011**

**School Diary for Parents**

Confirmation that the following dates are our 5 In-Service Days during the next school year: Monday 31 October 2011, Monday 20 February, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> and Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June, Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2012.

**Reception Nativity Play – Change of Date**

This will now be held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 2.30pm.

**Zoo Trip**

**A Whole School Trip to celebrate our amazing and outstanding Ofsted Inspection!**

We are going to go to Bristol Zoo. School will be closed on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October and all children and staff (and parent helpers) will go by coach from school to the Zoo for the day. We will leave school at approximately 9.30 and get back to school by 3.00pm. There will be a small charge to everyone to cover the cost of the coaches, but more details will follow in a separate letter.

**Family Challenge**

This year we are going to reintroduce our Family Challenges. There will be six challenges across the year – one per term to be completed at home. The aim of the challenges is for whole families to be involved in completing the set activity. It encourages team work and for the adults to be seen as good role models when learning.

Class teachers will explain the challenges fully and will also give one homework session over to the challenge. We are hoping to get as many families involved as possible so we can display all entries in the school hall. Each participating family will receive a certificate and the overall winning family will receive a prize.

The first Family Challenge is inspired by our upcoming trip to Bristol Zoo. We would like everyone to find out about an endangered animal and present your findings. You could:

- Design a poster
- Make a leaflet
- Produce a magazine
- Your own idea

The deadline for all entries is Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October and they need to be handed in to Mrs Morson (Yr 5). Good luck and have fun!

**Gorilla Trail**

Well done to Libby, Joseph and Max Smith, who managed to see all 61 gorillas including the Tourist at Birmingham Bus Station. Congratulations also to Alyssa and Megan Grimshaw, Ella and Rosie Burchill, Lauren and Rosie Barker, Theresa Maggs and Mrs. Rudge who have also trekked Bristol to see as many gorillas as possible.

**Research Project**

We do need 100% returns on these forms that were sent home last week. Please collect one from the office if you did not get it. These need to be returned as quickly as possible to the class teacher.

**Harmonica Club**

Children will be having lessons on a Thursday lunch hour, during this term, but it is hoped that the Harmonica teacher will be forming an After School Club – so watch this space!

## **Morrison's Vouchers and Milk Bottle Tops!**

Once again we are collecting Morrison's Garden Vouchers. There is a box in the entrance foyer to put them in. We still collect the box top coupons for books too. We are once again collecting milk bottle tops. These are to help an 11yr old local girl who has Cystic Fibrosis to buy a new wheelchair. Please make sure you wash and dry them and they can be left in the black sack in the entrance foyer.

## **Harvest**

We are preparing for Harvest Festival early again this year. We plan to hold our service on the afternoon of Tuesday 18th October at 2.00 pm. Following the success of our harvest festival in previous years with the theme of helping the children understand that food doesn't just come from supermarkets, we would like to do something similar this year. This is where you can be involved, so yet again we have a big favour to ask.

We would like the children to be involved in making a food item for Harvest. Ideally it would be better if it was a preserve or a pickle such as a jar of jam, chutney or perhaps a jar of pickled onions or cabbage which has a long shelf life. The children will then bring their offering into the hall as part of the service and at the end we will have a sale of all the lovely goodies.

Here are a few suggestions that you could make with your children

- a jar of:
  - jam (there are some lovely blackberries growing in the hedgerow around school)
  - chutney
  - pickles- cabbage, onions, beetroot etc
- a loaf of bread (the bread maker can come in useful here)
- cake, tarts, etc
- pizza
- soup

## **Bike Theft**

We have been informed by the Local Authority that there has been a significant increase in the reported thefts of cycles across S Glos. Police patrols have noticed that some cycles are either left unsecure or would benefit from added security. They have asked us to pass on this basic advice:-.

Where possible store your bicycle out of sight.

Secure it to a solid structure with a good lock and chain.

Mark it with your postcode/house number and keep a record of the frame number.

The Police recommend products that are Sold Secure. Check out [www.soldsecure.com](http://www.soldsecure.com) for certified cycle locks which come in bronze, silver and gold standards with bronze being the recommended minimum standard.

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE\*\*** a change to police numbers that come into effect from Monday 19th September 2011

For emergencies ring 999 (No Change)

NON EMERGENCY enquiries please ring 101, this takes over from 0845 4567000. (101 calls cost 15p for the duration of the call)

**PTFA News** - Please see attached letter.