



ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No 9

Monday 3 November 2008

Dear Parents,

In our belief statement assembly this morning we shared the statement, '**I try to be just and fair.**' If we could all stick to this then the world would be a much nicer place to be.

Welcome back, I hope that you had a lovely week off and we can now look forward to a very busy but enjoyable half term ahead.

Diocesan Building Fund

Each year the Diocese asks all parents of children in Catholic Schools for a contribution to the Diocesan Building Fund. This goes towards covering the schools' 10% contribution to building works. Over last 5 years our school has had over £400,000 of building work carried out i.e. the hall and playground, so as you can see we have done very well from it. Without this fund we could not have afforded the £40000 for the work to have taken place. .

This year, once again, we are asking for a contribution of £8 per child or £15 per family to help cover the contribution that we have to make. If every family makes their contribution then it really does make a difference to us. Please send your contribution into school in an envelope marked 'Diocesan Building Fund' and with your child's name on it. Thank you!

CAFOD Harvest Thanks

Thank you for your support in the last week of last half term. Through the raffle, which was won by Mrs Colbeck, and 'own clothes' day I am sure we will have managed to raise about £100 for CAFOD. I will confirm this next week and then send them the money.

Parents Evenings

You should have received your child's appointment before you broke up, if you didn't please let us know and we will resend it. Remember that they will take place tomorrow and Thursday.

Half Termly Parents' Meeting

This will take place next Monday, 10 November, at 2.00pm. If you have anything that you would like to raise then please let me know and I will add it to the agenda. Remember that these afternoons are an opportunity for you to share concerns or offer suggestions on ways to work together better.

Body Shop Party - Thursday 13 November

Please put this in your diary, a good chance to pick up a few presents and for a bit of fun.

Remembrance tide Assembly: Anne Hickman will join us on Friday, at 2.30pm to talk to the children about the Poppy Appeal. Poppies will be on sale in school all week. You are most welcome to join us.

After School Clubs

I am sorry but there will be no football or multi skills this week, they will both return next week. Also, there is no homework club until after Christmas. Computers will go ahead tomorrow and will continue to run whilst Miss Hinton is able to do so.

Morrison's Let's Grow

Please continue to send in any vouchers that you collect.

Christmas Cards - Reminder

Last year the staff decided to stop giving Christmas Cards to each other and instead all signed a single card and made a donation, usually the cost of the Christmas Cards, to Bluebell Wood. This year we intend to do the same and would like to extend this to the children. We will prepare a display in the hall which the children will be able to add a star to. They will be able to write a Christmas Message to their friends on the star instead of sending them all a Christmas card, a donation of £1 will buy the star and the money will all go to Bluebell Wood - as will the proceeds of the raffles we will have at our Christmas Events.

Residential Visit

This year's residential visit, to Lindisfarne, will take place from Monday 18 to Friday 22 May, the week after Year 6 SATs. We will be joining together with St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Doncaster, for this year's trip. At present it is only open children in Years 5 and 6. There will be a meeting to share more details this coming Wednesday, 5 November, at 3.15pm in Class 3. A separate letter is being sent to every child in these year groups.

Parents in School

Our cloakrooms are becoming increasingly crowded each morning as parents help their children get changed. The children are more than capable of doing this on their own, they do it in Early Years so surely they can elsewhere, and I think that now is the time to let them. Therefore I am asking that parents leave their children at the school doors.

St Helen's, Oldcotes, Carol Service

There will be a Carol Service at St Helen's on Saturday 6 December. If anyone would like to be involved please let me know and I will get you further details.

Swimming Lessons

It's not often that I write about being disappointed in the Newsletter but on this occasion I feel I must. I am becoming increasingly concerned at the number of children missing swimming. There are far too many children missing, without a real reason, each week. Your children are incredibly fortunate in the fact that they receive swimming lessons, at considerable cost, throughout school. We now have many parents opting out of lessons for their children and this is unacceptable. From now on **I expect all children to take part in lessons unless there is a valid reason**, in which case **I expect a letter explaining their illness** - common colds are not serious enough! If this situation does not improve then I will have to reconsider offering swimming lessons to everyone.