



## MANGOTSFIELD C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Church Farm Road,  
Emerson's Green, Mangotsfield,  
South Gloucestershire  
BS16 7EY

Website: [www.mangotsfieldprimary.org](http://www.mangotsfieldprimary.org)

Headteacher: *Mr Mark Cripps, MA Ed*  
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### Newsletter, Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2007

#### From the Head

##### **Travel Plan Success**

You may remember that last term I mentioned our School Travel Plan had been endorsed by the Local Authority. We have recently received the money awarded to the school for the validated plan and will be letting you know shortly how this is to be spent.

A considerable amount of time and energy went into developing the Travel Plan including strategies for encouraging children to come to school under their own steam – by bicycle, scooter, skateboard etc. – and this has been an overwhelming success. However, it is also causing the school some problems which need to be addressed, especially if we are to ensure effective health and safety within the school grounds.

All children have been informed that they must not ride their bikes/scooters or use their skateboards (or wear Heelies) in the school grounds. Furthermore a number of messages concerning this rule have been sent home to parents in several Newsletters.

However, this week I have received a formal complaint from a parent, who was injured by a pupil using their scooter in the school playground. Thus I would urge all parents to ensure that their children are fully aware that they must not enter the school riding their cycles/scooters or using skateboards (or Heelies). Bikes and scooters should be carefully wheeled to the cycle parking area and any skateboards/Heelies should be carried. We have now displayed signs reminding everyone of this rule which applies to all children (including younger siblings not yet attending Mangotsfield Primary) and I would very much appreciate your full support in this matter.

##### **Parent Evenings**

Please note that we will now be holding Parent Evenings before the half term break on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> October and on Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> October (4pm to 6.30pm). These dates are not shown on the School Calendar because they were to be replaced with a short PSE (Personal and Social Education) report. However, after further discussion with staff it was decided that holding Parent Evenings would be more effective in terms of communicating individual progress, and also provide a valuable opportunity for you and your child's new teacher to meet. Thus there will be no 'Settling In' reports sent out on 30<sup>th</sup> November as stated on the School Calendar. Please also note that the Parent's Evenings planned for 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> February 2008 will also still go ahead.

#### School Events & Notices

##### **Stranger Danger & School Attendance**

You will note from this week's 'Stranger Danger' incident that your full cooperation with the following school attendance procedures is essential to ensuring effective child safety:

If your child arrives at school after 9am then it is imperative that you sign them into the Late Register. This will ensure that we know your child is in school even though they may have missed class registration. The Late Register will be held in the School Office; **therefore you and your children must call at the school office before going to class.**

If your child or children are unwell and unable to attend school please ensure you contact the School office each day or you can call in at the office not the class teacher. The telephone number is 01454 867400 and you can leave message on the answerphone giving your child or children's name and class). Please try and call as early as possible (before 10am) each day your child is absent. This will ensure that we do not telephone you at home or in work to ascertain the reason your child is not in school.

### **Sainsbury's Vouchers**

Thank you all so much for huge number of Sainsbury Active Kids vouchers donated to the school. These have now been exchanged for a large amount of sports equipment which has just arrived and will be put to very good use!

### **British Heart Foundation**

We are delighted to inform you that Mangotsfield Primary School raised £627 for the British Heart Foundation in the sponsored skipping event last term. Congratulations to all the children on this excellent achievement and many thanks to all parents and friends who sponsored the event.

### **Healthy Schools - Food Policy**

We have taken parents, teachers and children's feedback regarding our food policy and the final draft has now been written. If you would like to see this policy please ask at reception. Can I also take this opportunity to remind parents of the benefits of healthy lunchboxes, for example, wholemeal instead of white bread, raisins instead of crisps, yoghurt etc. Thank you for your cooperation in helping Mangotsfield achieve Healthy Schools status! (Emily Strover - PSHE and Healthy Schools coordinator)

### **School Dinner Price**

A quick reminder that school dinners are now £1.50

### **Guitar Lessons**

Our usual guitar teacher, Ganesh, will unfortunately be unable to teach this half term due to illness. However, we have a replacement teacher who will begin guitar lessons **next Thursday**. We hope to still fit in 10 lessons before Christmas but if we are unable to do so, you will be refunded for any missed sessions.

### **Head Lice Alert!**

A new year, a new set of germs!!! Please be aware that there have been reports of head lice already this term. Please check your child/ children and treat as necessary. Thank you ☺

## **Community News**

### **Internet Safety – What Every Parent Should Know.**

South Gloucestershire Council, in conjunction with the South West Grid for Learning and the Police, are to hold a set of Internet Safety awareness events for parents and carers whose children and young people attend South Gloucestershire schools. These events will take place in October 2007. If you require any further information on these events please pop in to the school office to collect a copy of the letter.

### **Church Service at School**

There will be a 'Little Acorns' Service for pre-school children and their parents in the School Hall from 9.30am to 9.50am, this Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> September. Members of St James Church will be leading the meeting which consists of simple songs and prayers, a story and a short craft activity. The meeting concludes with tea, coffee and orange. All are welcome so please come along.

With best wishes,

**Mark Cripps**  
**Headteacher**