

Mangotsfield Primary School

Newsletter, Friday 15th February 2008

From the Head

Book Competition Success

Probably like many of you I am always hopeful of winning millions on the Lottery each week, but unfortunately I have never managed to get more than two numbers. However, whilst in Starbucks over the Christmas break I noticed a competition they were running with the National Literacy Trust to win £500 worth of book vouchers for a school of your choice. I completed the competition's online crossword and in January was very surprised to receive notification that I had won. This week we received £500 worth of Borders book vouchers which we will be spending on new books for our classroom fiction libraries. If anyone would now like me to choose their National Lottery numbers

Lighthouse Certificates

From half term we will be replacing the weekly Award of Merit with a new 'Lighthouse Award'. Children will still be able to receive these certificates for good work, politeness etc. but they will be more closely linked to the school Lighthouses in order to further raise the profile of these important core values.

New Floor, Tables and Security Doors

Hopefully when children return to school on Monday, 24th February they will find a brand new hall floor. The old one is beginning to crack and I am sure the new floor will help to further enhance the pupil's learning environment. Furthermore, we are hoping to be able to replace the folding tables and plastic chairs with new folding refectory tables which should make it much easier for dinner ladies to set up for lunch and more comfortable for the children whilst eating. These new tables with stools attached will also help to reduce the damage from the constant movement of furniture across the hall floor surface.

In addition we are also updating our security doors to further enhance the safety and welfare of the children. Entry via the external doors to the infant cloakroom will be restricted by a new security entry system. At the moment these doors are open throughout the day which means that unauthorized access is possible. Entry into the school via these doors will be limited to 10 minutes at the start of school (8.55am to 9.05am) and during break and lunchtimes only. The doors will of course open freely in case of an emergency. I know some parents like to wait in the infant cloakroom especially on cold mornings, but the school building is not covered by insurance before 8.55am (unless the wet bell rings) therefore access will no longer be possible before this time. However, if the weather is sufficiently inclement the wet bell will be activated and the doors opened at 8.45am by a member of staff. Any children arriving after the start of school must enter via reception and sign in the late book.

School Events & Notices

Thinking Day for Scouts and Guides

On Friday 22nd February, Scouts and Guides all over the world have a 'Thinking Day' to think about Lord and Lady Baden-Powell, founders of the movements. They think about being part of one big family and about having friends everywhere across the world. As we will not be in school on this date, we would like to invite all Rainbows, Brownies and Guides; Beavers, Cubs and Scouts to wear their club uniforms all day on **Friday 29th February**. We would welcome any parents or members of the wider community, who are involved in these groups to come along for assembly at 9.15 am, to share the work and your experiences. If you would like to participate please speak to Debbie Williams by Wednesday 27th February. *Mrs Debbie Williams – Deputy Headteacher*

Key Stage 2 Tuck Shop!

We are pleased to announce that as of the first week back after half term, the School Council will be running a tuck shop at Key Stage 2 break times. The shop will sell fresh and dried fruit costing 15p a portion. This will be on sale every break time so please bring your money and help our tuck shop to become a success!

Thank you to Lisa our new school chef for her support in running the tuck shop!

Miss Strover, Ben Chick, Ellie Barnes – Price (Tuck Shop managers)

'Little Laureates' Poetry Competition for KS2 children

All children in year 3-6 are invited to take part in a National Young Writers competition. It's easy to enter. Children need to write a poem on any subject and in any poetry style. Please return entries (with a completed entry form attached) to the school office by Tuesday 26th February, to be posted at the end of the school day.

Hint and Tips - The judges will be looking for imagination, spirit and expression. This competition supports our Lighthouse that 'We enjoy being creative in lots of different ways'.

All entrants receive a sticker. The selected poems will be published in an anthology and those children will receive a Certificate of Merit. Copies of the book will be available to purchase at a later date. In addition to individual prizes the school which comes first will receive £1000 to spend on computers and other resources. There are also fifteen runner-up school cash prizes plus, a creative writing set awarded to the winning poem in each anthology, upon publication.

Mrs Debbie Williams and Julie Thorn – Literacy Team

Match Report – Mangotsfield 5 – 0 Kings Forest

As soon as the whistle blew it looked like Mangotsfield were going to score and it was not long before Josh Curnow scored not 1, not 2 but 3 cracking goals to get his hat trick! Mangotsfield held strong and did not let Kings Forest even get a chance of scoring thanks to some great defending from Luke Nash and Zak Humphries, which left our ace goalkeeper, Tom Nash, without even a touch of the ball. Then Josh Curnow hit the back of the net, off a defender, for his 4th just before half time.

In the 2nd half Liam Porter and Jordan Cribb had a few excellent close shots, Tommy Winstone played a fantastic game on the right but it was our captain, Jay Malpas, after a few excellent shots, who scored the 5th goal - a cracker in the bottom left hand corner, to end the game at 5-0! *Report by Zak Humphries (Man of the Match)*

LEA Governor

We are pleased to let you know that Mark Weaver, our former PTA chair, has recently been appointed as a Local Education Authority Governor, we wish him every success in this role.

School Clubs

School clubs will start again on Monday 25th February and will take place week beginning 3rd March **but not during week beginning 10th March** due to the Deanfield trip. The final week of clubs will be week beginning 17th March, however, in light of Good Friday falling on 21st March the final session of rugby and self defence will be on Friday 28th March. Please make a note of these dates in your diaries.

Friends of Mangotsfield Primary School (FOMPs)

A FOMPs newsletter is attached giving details of the Leap Year Disco which will be held on Friday 29th February. Please also note that we will be collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers and the Nestle cereal vouchers from after half term.

Primary Praise - "The Good Samaritan" - On Sunday 20th January there will be a short service for primary school children and their families with the theme of "The Good Samaritan". The service will be from 9.30am to 10.00am in the school hall and will be led by Rev. Steve Abbott and members of St James' Church. Coffee, squash and biscuits will be provided afterwards and everyone is welcome, so please come along.

Concert, "Serenade to Spring" – On Saturday 1st March there will be a choral concert (with some instrumental items) by the group "Cantanti" at St. James' Church. This will be in aid of community and educational projects in Peru and Tanzania. Tickets £5 (£2 for under 18s), complimentary wine/fruit juice during the interval. For tickets, ring 0117 956 1818.

School Dinner Money

Please can you ensure that all dinner money is sent to school with your child in a **sealed and clearly marked envelope** and given in to their class teacher. As you can appreciate, the office is extremely busy at the beginning and end of the school day and they would be grateful for your assistance with this matter.

Best wishes

Mark Cripps
Headteacher