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www.cliffordroadschool.org.uk



Clifford Road Primary School

Tuesday, January 06, 2009

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new term here at Clifford Road. I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas break and New Year.

I would like to take this opportunity to give you some dates and information about various things taking place here in the future and to share with you some outcomes of last term.

Procedures for School Closure due to Severe Weather Condition

Should I feel that we need to close the school during the next few months I will try to make a decision as early as possible, hopefully before 7.00am. I will then contact BBC Radio Suffolk (95.5, 95.9, 103.9 & 104.6 FM) at www.bbc.co.uk/suffolk and Heart Ipswich (96.4 & 97.1 FM) at www.heartipswich.co.uk. The information can also be found on the County Council website www.suffolkcc.gov.uk.

We will also endeavour to make sure someone is available in school to answer the telephones and to meet people who have not heard the announcements.

Feedback from Parents Forum & Parents Council Meetings

Many thanks to those of you who attended these meetings or sent opinions. I really feel we had some positive discussions about how to improve communication and address some of the issues in our school. From these discussions I can see that Homework has caused anxiety and distress to some pupils and parents. Therefore we have set aside some time this term to review our Homework Policy to ensure we allow it to better support our work in school and what you are doing at home. Whilst it is under review I would like homework to concentrate on reading (this can be fiction/non-fiction, comics etc., anything that encourages and enthuses your child!), math's work (e.g. math's games, key facts, Multiplication Tables) and spellings. We will also be asking the children to undertake more practical projects and to research topics at home. To support this we will be running a computer /research club on Thursday lunchtimes from 12.15pm for any Key Stage 2 children who would like help and support in this.

I will be holding my next Parents Council Meeting on Friday 23rd January so please contact your class representative if you want anything raised.

The Parents Forum will take place later in the term with the focus to be given soon.

Swimming

I am pleased to say that swimming will continue for all Key Stage 1 children this term and some Key Stage 2 children. Year 6 will be having lessons at Fore Street Swimming Pool.

The Life Channel

Friday sees the official launch of our Life Channel TV. We will have various members of our local community attending this event along with representatives from the staff, pupils, parents and Governors. We hope that this channel will provide a highly effective system of communication within the school environment as well as emphasising and delivering topics of great importance. It will also be used as a platform for our school to share, celebrate and reward all our achievements. Look out for us in the paper!

New Staff

We are very pleased to welcome Mrs. Rebecca Abbott who will be teaching Class 7 with Mrs. Ruiz until the end of the year and Mrs. Laura Kuzminsky who will be teaching in Class 2 with Mrs. Wright. We are very pleased that they are part of our team and hope they enjoy being at Clifford Road.

You should be receiving your termly Year Group Newsletter within the next two weeks detailing events and topics to look forward to!

And finally...

I am very pleased to tell you that yesterday at 7.19pm Mrs. Wilson gave birth to a baby boy, Harry Alan James Wilson.

They are both doing very well and we send the whole family our congratulations and look forward to seeing them soon.

Steve Wood

Head Teacher

Dates for your Diary:

January:	14 th	School Nurse in to see Year 6
February:	3 rd	Year 5 Trip to West Stow
		Parents Evening: 3.30 – 4.30pm
	5 th	Parents Evening: 5 – 7.30pm
	6 th	Year 6 Trip to Shotley
	9 th	Class 15 Trip to Pizza Express
	10 th	Class 16 Trip to Pizza Express
	11 th	Year 4 Hockey Coaching at Copleston
	16 th	Half Term Begins
	25 th	Year 4 Hockey Festival at Copleston
March:	4 th	Nursery Welcome Meeting: 5.50pm
	11 th	Reception Induction
		Reception Welcome Meeting: 6pm
	12 th	PTA Fashion Show: 7pm
	18 th	Reception Induction including School Dinner
	25 th	Reception Induction including Packed Lunch
	27 th	PTA Easter Disco 6 - 9pm
April:	6 th	Easter Holidays Begins
	20 th	Summer Term Starts
May:	5 th	Class Photographs
	11 th	Year 6 SAT Tests this week
	18 th	Years 3, 4 and 5 QCA Tests this week
	22 nd	PD Day: School Closed to Children
	25 th	Half Term Begins
June:	8 th	Year 6 Trip to France
	17 th	Reception Trip to Easton Farm Park
		Nursery Welcome Meeting: 5.50pm
	24 th	Reception Induction
		Reception Welcome Meeting: 6pm
July:	1 st	Reception Induction including School Dinner
	8 th	Reception Induction including Packed Lunch
	13 th	School Disco
	20 th	PD Day: School Closed to Children
	20 th	Last Day of Term