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12th February 2010

Dear Parents,

I have been heartened by the way in which groups of children quickly organised their own responses to the terrible tragedy in Haiti. Initiatives such as selling bird seed, cake stalls, book sales and the making and selling of jewellery have come from the children without any prompting. This is another demonstration of the caring nature of our children. These initiatives have so far raised around £450!

PTA

Thanks to the PTA for their hard work in raising £451 at the jumble sale in January. Can I remind you of the Valentine Ball between 6 and 8pm this Friday? This is a family event. The PTA have asked me to give you advance notice for the Quiz night to be held on Friday 19th March.

Reminder- All correspondence relating to the PTA should be posted in the black box on the wall outside the entrance to the reception.

Staffing

I am sad to report that Mrs Hillard, due to unforeseen personal circumstances, has decided to resign from her post as teaching assistant. Although Mrs Hillard only began at the school last September, she quickly became a trusted and popular member of the staff team. Our thoughts go with her along with our best wishes for the future.

I am pleased to report that Mrs Cook, who works in Foundation Stage, has announced that she is expecting a baby in May. I am sure your thoughts, like ours in school will be with her at this exciting time!



Bugsy Malone

The drama club and school choir are working hard on their production of the musical Bugsy Malone. The dates for the productions are on Tuesday 30th March and Wednesday 31st March. Both performances begin at 7pm and are expected to finish at 9pm.

Holocaust Memorial

We were well represented at the Holocaust Memorial service held at the Guildhall on Wednesday 27th January. Rebecca and Greg represented the school during the day and the school choir sang at the service.

Ethiopia



Miss Gane will represent school as part of a Connecting Classrooms initiative sponsored by the British Council. She will be visiting schools in Arba Minch to the South of Ethiopia during the week beginning 22nd February. We wish her well and look forward to her further developing our global links. Judging by the number of pencils and small items brought to her by the children, she is unlikely to be able to pack clothes! Thank you so much for your kind donations.

Wintry Weather

We have reviewed the school policy with regard to footwear. We think that the children will be warmer and more comfortable if we allow the wearing of boots during periods of rain, snow or very cold days. Boots should be warm and have good grips. High heeled fashion boots are not allowed and we don't expect children

to wear boots during warm sunny weather. The staff wanted to adopt a common sense approach to footwear and look for parental support in making this work for the benefit of the children.

After School Use Of The Library Computers

Can we remind parents that children are not allowed on the library computers except on Wednesdays at the 'Family Learning Club'? This is due to the requirements of the Cambridge Internet Safety Policy. I am writing this as a number of parents have been allowing their children to use the machines unsupervised whilst waiting for other clubs.

Art Inspection

We were pleased with the Ofsted findings in our recent Art and Design subject inspection. The 'Good with Outstanding Features' overall grading was, we are told, the highest grading which has been given by the lead inspection in this new Ofsted framework which came into force last September. Milton Road will be included in the Ofsted guide to the best schools in the subject. The full report is available on the Inspection website.

Aspens

Just a reminder that Aspens do provide packed lunches as a service to parents.

I am grateful to Aspens for providing free coffee, buns and biscuits for the Coffee Morning pilots we have held this week. The coffee morning were organised in response to requests received from some parents when I sought your views last term.

The parents who were able to attend the coffee mornings enjoyed themselves, as did their pre-school children. The feeling is that we continue with one coffee morning each week on a different day to provide the opportunity for more parents to attend. The parents I spoke to thought a donation box to cover future costs would be appropriate.

With all this in mind I will speak to Aspens and arrange some dates.



Yours sincerely,

Steve Burton
Headteacher

Dates for your Diary Spring and Summer Term 2010

February

Fri 12	PTA Valentines Ball
15.19	HALF TERM
Wed 24	4R Fitzwilliam
Fri 26	Interschool Quiz Club Year 3 Hockey Festival CCC
Sun 28	12 noon – 5pm Y5 & Y6 Korfball Tournament in Ely

March

Mon 1	PTA Mad March Hair Day
Thurs 4	Cambridge Music Festival pm Late Parents Evening (8pm finish)
Mon 8	Y2 Ely Cathedral
Tues 9	Y4 Cambridge University Wind Orchestra – West Road
Sat 13	Choir – Cambridgeshire Music Festival
Mon 15	am Y1R Folk Museum
Wed 17	am Y1S Folk Museum

pm Parents Evening (7pm finish)
 Thurs 18 Year 6 to Duxford
 am Y1M Folk Museum
 Fri 19 Year 5 Virtual Athletics CCC
 pm PTA Quiz Night
 Tues 23 afternoon Y3/4 Production
 Wed 24 morning Y3/4 Production
 Sat 27 'Classroom to Ballroom'
 Tues 30 3.45 – 5pm Netball
 *7-9 pm Buggy Malone Production (**note – new date and time*)
 Wed 31 4.30pm Cross Country Tournament at St Neots
 Chesterton School Concert at West Road
 * 7-9 pm Buggy Malone Production (**note – new date and time*)

April

Thurs 1 PTA Easter Egg Hunt
 Term Ends
 Mon 19 School Closed - Training Day
 Tues 20 Spring Term Starts
 Thurs 22 am Year 5 Swimming at Abbey Pool each Thurs during Summer Term
 Mon 26 Class & Team Photographs
 Wed 28 2.30 – 4.30pm Football Tournament at Histon Primary

May

Mon 3 School Closed – May Day
 Wed 5 Year 3 – Wandlebury
 Thurs 6 Year 3 - Wandlebury
 Mon 10 – 14 Key Stage 2 SATs Week
 Learning Bus at school all week
 Fri 14 Year 1 Multiskills Festival CCC (9.30 – 12.00)
 Sun 16 Italian Children Arrive – hosted by Year 5 Families
 Sat 22 Italian Children Leave
 31 – 4th June Half Term

June

7 – 11 Y6 to Borreaton Park in the Midlands
 Y5 Bikeability
 Fri 11 Year 2 Multiskills – 9.30am – 12.00
 Tues 15 am Y3 Athletics with Castle School (10 children involved)
 Wed 16 Y6 Transition Festival at Chesterton Community College
 Wed 23 Y5 Kentwell
 Fri 25 Training Day
 28 – 2 National School Sports Week

July

Mon 5 Y6 Induction Day at Chesterton
 Y6 Parents Evening at Chesterton
 Wed 14 pm Y6 Production
 Thurs 15 pm Y6 Production
 Reports home to Parents
 Thur 22 Term Ends

