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www.parentmail.co.uk (Register free of charge)



31st March 2010

Dear Parents,

School Productions and Events



What a fantastic end to the term we have had! The Year 3 / 4 production 'The Glint of Gold' set in Ancient Egypt was a huge success. Many of you commented on the pyramid stage setting, the music, the solos and the storyline. At the same time, the Choir entered Cambridge Music Festival and won the trophy! Last weekend, we had the 'C2B' Classroom to Ballroom, organised by Anastasia Castiglione. Once again this proved to be a wonderful evening showcasing the exceptional dancing skills of the year 6 children who took part. A day or two later the after school drama club, supported by the Choir, 'fired' into their production of 'Bugsy Malone'. This was sold out well in advance and was again exceptional in many ways, not least in its content. Those of you who chose to sit on the front row were very brave! For those who weren't able to be there, I refer to the amount of plastic string, water and custard pies that were lavishly used, to good effect throughout. Many of you have asked me to pass on thanks to the staff involved in all of these events which I did at the last staff meeting. I want to say another really big 'Thank You' publicly to the teachers, the children and you, the parents who contributed so much to these wonderful events.

Our New School Vision

We need a new school vision which we can aspire to and which encapsulates all that we value at Milton Road Primary School. It is very important that any vision is shared so that everyone, from our youngest child to the oldest member of our school community, both understands and works towards it. The governors and staff worked in teams to produce some early drafts. I have to admire the creativity with which the teams engaged with this task. A working group including four pupils together with parent, staff, PTA and governor representatives has met to try and come up with one final draft which we could present for final approval. This was a really enlightening meeting with the outcome that **we would like to give everyone the opportunity of adding views or voting for favourites.** The working group suggested that we display the drafts, invite further ideas and allow voting for a preferred final choice. I have to say I was delighted with this outcome as this approach means that the new vision will be 'shared' from the very outset. The display of ideas will be mounted on a mobile display unit which can be wheeled out to the school gate and moved around school as necessary. **The working group would be grateful if you could give some of your time to looking at the existing ideas, thinking about the vision and responding if possible.** We are looking forward to seeing and hearing the ideas.

Staffing

It is with great sadness that we are saying goodbye to Mrs Smith, the School Bursar/Administrator a dedicated and valued member of the school team. Mrs Smith has worked at Milton Road for over eleven years and will be sorely missed but we wish her all the best for the future.

On a much happier note, I am delighted to announce that following interviews on Tuesday Miss Gane has been appointed 'Deputy Headteacher'. As you are aware Miss Gane has been 'Acting Deputy Headteacher' since September 2009.

We also have a new Teaching Assistant, Miss Chapman, who has started in year 3, plus three other Teaching Assistants - Mrs Corby, Mrs Brown-Roche and Mrs Leishman who will be starting after the Easter holidays. I am sure they will soon become a valued member of the 'Milton Road' school community.

Fund Raising

Thanks once again to the PTA for their hard work in fund raising this term. The 'Mad March Hair Day' raised £356.15 for East Anglia's Children's Hospices in Milton. The 'Valentine Ball', 'Quiz Night', Jumble Sale and the sale of refreshments during the 'Bugsy' production have raised over £1500!

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

The children themselves deserve a special thank you for their fundraising for the Haiti appeal – well done!

Coffee Mornings/Notice board

We have been experimenting to find the best date for the weekly Coffee Mornings. Thursday has proved to be the most popular day so we will set this day for next half term and review again at the end of May.

I enjoy going along when I can as I can talk informally and gain your views. I have been really touched by the number of offers of support from parents who attend.

It's still good to see many of you using the notice board at the gate. A number of you have now told me that it is proving to be useful. We set it up in response to parental ideas for the development plan. The request was 'to keep parents more aware of what is going on in the area'. I thank the office team for implementing this and I know they will place adverts and other information which we all feel is appropriate.

Cambridgeshire Music Lessons

The music teachers have asked me give a reminder that music lessons start in the week beginning Tuesday 20th April, the first week back, and ask if children can be reminded "*to bring in their instruments*".



Robot Exhibition

We are hoping to see as many Reception parents at the Foundation Stages Robot Exhibition during the second week of next term. The children have been working very hard on their project and will be delighted to see you. Look out for your invitations in book bags!

1-2-3 Magic

Our Parent Support Advisor, Sue Derry, is starting a 4 week course next term to help parents find effective parenting techniques. If you would like to book a place on the course please pick up a leaflet from the school office. Alternatively if you would like more information please do contact Sue direct on 07717 347 436.

School Nurse

We have a new school nurse starting next term – Helen Morrison. We will advise dates and times of the 'drop in' sessions once we have them confirmed.

It just leaves me now to wish you all a wonderful holiday.

Yours sincerely,

Steve Burton
Headteacher

Dates for your Diary Summer Term 2010

April

Thurs 1 PTA Easter Egg Tombola
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
Tues 27 1-2-3 Magic Course
Wed 28 2.30 – 4.30pm Football Tournament at Histon Primary

May

Mon 3 School Closed – May Day
Tues 4 Year 3 – Wandlebury (*please note new date*)
1-2-3 Magic Course
Wed 5 Year 3 – Wandlebury
Fri 7 am 5R to Fitzwilliam
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
Tues 18 1-2-3 Magic Course
Wed 19 4.30 – 6pm Year 5 Maths Challenge
Thurs 20 Evening Farewell to Italian Visitors
Fri 21 Italian Children Leave
Tues 25 KS1 & Foundation Stage – Jump Rope
Wed 26 am Y3 & Y4 Jump Rope
am 5M to Fitzwilliam
pm Y5 & Y6 Jump Rope
31 – 4th June Half Term

June

7 – 11 Y6 to Borreaton Park in the Midlands
Y5 Bikeability
Wed 9 Year 4 Activity Day
Fri 11 Year 2 Multiskills – 9.30am – 12.00
PTA School Disco 6 – 8pm
Tues 15 am Y3 Athletics with Castle School (10 children involved)
Wed 16 Y6 Transition Festival at Chesterton Community College
Tues 22 Year 4 Paxton Pits
Wed 23 Y5 Kentwell
Year 4 Paxton Pits
Fri 25 Training Day
28 – 2 National School Sports Week

July

Fri 2 Y3 Hockey Festival at Chesterton Community College 9.30 – 12 noon
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
Mon 19 Year 5 Tudor Production
Wed 21 Year 6 Leavers Disco
Thur 22 Term Ends