

Wymeswold C. of E. Primary School Newsletter

Friday 4th November 2011



The clocks have gone back, the days are growing shorter and it is getting darker earlier. We have really begun the run up to Christmas and as usual the term is busy and full of activity and new learning.

It was lovely to hear the enthusiastic reports of all the fun the children had at the PTA Halloween Party! On behalf of the whole school community I would like to extend our thanks to the committee and their families for all the time and effort that goes into producing such a wonderful experience for the children. If there are any photos from the event, please email them to us and we will happily post them on the website for all to share.

I should also like to extend my thanks to all of you who took the time to complete the parent survey before half term. During the holiday I took them all home and read through your views. It was so useful to have such constructive feedback, suggestions and ideas as well as comments that reflect your experiences of school. I will be presenting your ideas, views and concerns to the Curriculum and Monitoring Committee of the governing body and then the next steps will be that you will receive a breakdown of responses and an action plan that shows how we are going to address issues raised. Thanks for your honesty and assistance in this matter.

Parent Reading Team



Mrs Scallon would like to formally pass on huge thanks to all those parents who responded to our request for parent reading helpers.

We asked all our children questions about their personal attitude to reading. Some children responded that they didn't like it or that they would like more time at school to do it. We wanted to set up new reading time and opportunities for these children, so we asked all of you if you could help us and we have had a wonderful response. It is lovely that our community give of their time so generously to support the school. Mrs Scallon has been working with this team to give training in the questions to ask the children and how to get the most out of each session. I am thrilled to be part of the project myself, and have already been allocated my own 'Reading Buddy' which I feel is a really special honour.

I know this project could make a huge difference to the children involved.

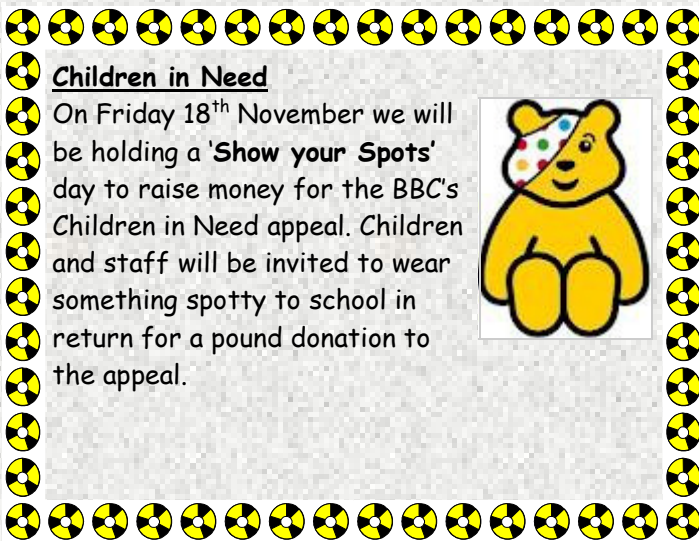
If you have any time you could spare us for reading with children and did not get the chance to reply to the request - it's not too late!!! Please see Mrs Scallon who can add you to our growing reading team.





Children in Need Concert Friday 18th November

We are getting close to the date of the Children in Need concert - 'Musical Spots' organised by Rachel Evans and the Charnwood Concert Bands. The event includes presentations from the Charnwood Concert Bands; the Keyworth School of Theatre Dance and of course our very own Wymeswold School Choir! The children have been practicing really hard and are sounding amazing. The concert will be on Friday, 18th November at Nottingham High School for Girls. Tickets are £10 each which includes interval 'drink and nibbles'. These are available from Rachel Evans who only has a few left, so make sure you get yours to avoid disappointment!



Children in Need

On Friday 18th November we will be holding a 'Show your Spots' day to raise money for the BBC's Children in Need appeal. Children and staff will be invited to wear something spotty to school in return for a pound donation to the appeal.



Book Week

The school will be having a themed 'Book Week' from Monday 21st to Friday 25th November. As usual, the travelling book fair will be selling books in the hall after school (3.30-4.00pm) every night that week. We will also be doing themed book activities that you will be further informed about closer to the date. Beware, there might be dressing up if Mrs Scallon gets her own way.



Mad science

The 'Mad Science' team will be in school doing an assembly on Wednesday, 9th November. This is to raise awareness of the club that will be taking place in January. They will provide parents with further details in a leaflet and if you are interested you send it back to them.

If you are keen for your child to participate keep an eye on bookbags return your request slip and deposit as directed.



Second hand uniform

On the next three or four Fridays in the run up to the Christmas holidays, there will be a rail of second hand uniform in the foyer for you to buy. Each item will be a pound and a donation box will be next to the rail. It is an ideal opportunity to replace lost uniform or buy a bigger size if your child is having a growth spurt at the moment and you need something to tide you over until it has settled down a bit. All money made will go to school fund.

Awards

I would like to thank staff for their work towards these very important awards. These show the diversity and breadth of the curriculum we offer to our children and the emphasis we place on life-long learning for children – preparing them for the world they will eventually inherit:

Miss Riddell has worked very hard to ensure we were re-assessed for the International Schools Award. This reflects the work the school does on ensuring the children learn about the global dimension and the diversity of our world;

Miss Haynes has been successful in providing evidence that has secured us the Bronze 'Food For Life Partnership' award, which means we are all learning more about how to live healthy lifestyles and where our food comes from;

Mrs Scallon and the 'Green Team' have made it possible for us to be assessed as meeting the requirements of the Silver Eco-Schools award. We are much more responsible environmentally and children (and adults) are more aware of our ecological impact on the world we live in.



Carol service

We hope to be holding the school carol service in the morning of Friday, 23rd. This year, we would like to make the service as family friendly as possible - therefore I am asking families to select the carols we sing. In the foyer from next week will be a suggestion box for 'Family Favourite' carols. I can't promise we can learn them all, but if your family carol is selected and learned by the school we can print in our programme who suggested it, with a little bit of text as to why it is so special to your family. I think it will make the service even more special than usual!

Christmas card recycling

We will once again be participating in the Leicestershire Christmas card recycling scheme. There will be collection boxes in the foyer after the Christmas holidays for you to be able to donate your old cards.



Nativity

*The Key Stage 1 Nativity Play this year will take place on Tuesday 20th December at 2.00pm.
Further information will be sent out nearer the time.*



Christmas Lunch

The school meals service will be organising the school Christmas Lunch on Thursday, 15th December. You will receive a menu and a reply slip if you wish to participate, nearer the time.

Feedback from Closure Survey

I asked all parents the question - would you support the closure of the school on the afternoon of Friday, 23rd December to allow travel and preparation before Christmas Eve on Saturday?

The vast majority of parents would welcome this as an option so the school will be closing at 1.15pm on the 23rd. I hope this gives plenty of time to organise childcare if necessary. If you wish to collect your child earlier, please let the class teacher know on the day.

Important Dates for this term

Tues 8th November

Road Safety Talk KS1
Y6 Cycling

Wed 9th November

Mad Science Assembly—you may receive a letter afterwards asking if you want your child to attend the 'Mad Science' club

Thurs 10th November

Loughborough Echo in to take pictures of Class 1 for their New Starters Supplement
Y6 Cycling

Fri 11th November

Road Safety Learning Day—all classes

Fri 18th November

Children in Need Day—'Show your Spots' Concert in the evening at Nottingham High School

Mon-Fri
21st-25th November

Book Fair in the hall all week
3.30-4.00pm

Thursday 15th December

Christmas Day Dinner!

Tuesday 20th December

KS1 Nativity Play

Fri 23rd December

Carol Service and Christingle
School closed from 1.15pm



Reminder

School photograph orders must be returned to school before Wednesday 9th November.