



NEWSLETTER 12 MARCH 2010

Welcome to our newsletter for Spring Term 4. The weather is finally improving, the plants and trees are budding and we feel sure we are heading towards a very sunny and warm summer!

Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who attended the book fair. We raised £1193.84 which gave us about £1000 of commission. We have already ordered books in this sum and these will be added to the library and the curriculum resources on receipt.

Thank you also to Mrs Knott and her band of helpers – we could not run the fair without them.

Parents' Lesson – "How Maths is Taught" – KS2

These sessions will be held during the summer term. Dates will be notified to you shortly.

KS1 SATs

Year 2 will be working on SATs papers throughout five weeks from our return to school after Easter until Friday 21 May. They will be spread out as follows:

23 April	Spelling
28 April	Reading Comprehension
w/c 4 May	Writing
w/c 10 May	Writing
w/c 17 May	Maths

KS2 SATs

These will be held on:

10 May	English Reading
11 May	English Writing
12 May	Mental Maths and Paper A
13 May	Paper B (calculator allowed)

These are formal national tests for the Year 6 children only held at specific times on these days. It is essential that the Year 6 children are early to bed and are in school raring to go on these days.

SATs Support Websites

Parents had requested details of websites that would assist them and their children in preparation for SATs. We would recommend BBC ReviseWise or alternatively there is an excellent school website at Woodlands Junior School in Kent. The addresses are:

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/revisewise

www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk.

Uniform

We do not normally advertise businesses through the school but we understand that one of our parents is involved in running a uniform stall from Stamford market. Since this will benefit all of our parents, we are happy to mention it as it will mean that you are able to buy uniform locally rather than having to travel to Peterborough or Grantham, or via the internet.

Wildlife Area

We have formed a partnership with Cummins Generator Technologies in Stamford who are assisting the school with all manner of projects. One of them is to renovate the old pond area in the wildlife trail. Both Cummins and the school are donating a small amount of money to assist with this and we have already written to all the local garden centres to ask for donations. However if any parent has any of the following available for donation we should be most grateful:

Rocks (for a rockery)

Bog plants

Sensory plants (ie lavender, herbs etc)

Evergreen shrubs (for planting around the perimeter fence)

Gravel

Bird boxes, hedgehog hides, insect boxes etc

Bird/insect attracting shrubs (ie buddleia etc)

Wildflower seeds

Perennial seeds

If anyone can assist us, please contact Mrs Town at the office who is coordinating the project and will liaise with you regarding timings and delivery next term.

Staff

Mrs Cadwallader leaves us this term. She has been with us on a temporary contract with Foundation Stage covering Katie Perry's maternity leave. Thank you to Mrs Cadwallader for helping us out so efficiently and cheerfully.

Mrs Perry returns to us after the summer half term on Monday 7 June and we look forward to her return.

We say goodbye temporarily to Mrs Wylie who is leaving us to start her maternity at the end of this term. We wish her all the very best and look forward to welcoming her back after her leave.

Mrs Wheeler also leaves at the end of this term, although she will be completing her work with the children who are taking the LAMDA exams. Thank you to Mrs Wheeler for her hard work with all our children, both in and out of school.

We would also like to tell you about a change to Miss Rossington and Mrs Wayling's class from next term. Miss Rossington will be with the children for four days a week, Monday to Thursday, and Mrs Wayling will cover Fridays. Mrs Wayling will be working in Foundation Stage on Mondays each week.

Boots for Africa

There has been a tremendous response to this appeal and so far we have collected over 30 pairs of boots. The box will be at the office for a couple of weeks after Easter so please bring in anything you can.

Mary's Backpacks

We recently received a certificate of thanks from Mary Canham regarding her backpack appeal. We are thrilled to announce that we collected 22 backpacks and would like to thank you for your generosity.

Mrs Chong

Thank you to Mrs Chong, who is one of stalwart supporters, and who kindly managed to obtain spare dinosaur books from the local newsagent following the promotion by the Stamford Mercury. We now have sufficient for two classes and these have been added to the curriculum library.

Rotary Outing to Wicksteed Park

We have received an invitation for some of our children to attend Wicksteed Park, paid for and hosted by the Stamford Rotarians. This is an annual event and is usually much enjoyed by those lucky enough to attend. This year the trip will be on 9 June 2010. There

are several different criteria to satisfy but the one that we have chosen this year is children who have had a difficult year with their health. There are several children who we shall nominate but if any parents wish to nominate any children themselves please contact the office.

Foundation Stage – Spare Clothing

We keep a supply of spare clothing for our children in case of accidents, and Mrs McClarnon has requested girls pants if anyone has any please!

Vouchers

We are collecting again as follows:

Nestle Box Tops
Times Book Tokens
Flora Tops
Sainsbury's Active Kids
Tesco's Schools and Clubs

Collection boxes are by the office and any vouchers will be gratefully received.

Stamford Civic Society – Views of the Future Competition

The competition has now closed and the entries were displayed at our school on Thursday evening last week which was a success. The winners will be notified by post by the Civic Society and an award evening will be held on 25 May 2010 at the Town Hall. Details of award winners will be in the next newsletter.

Elections

The General Election is likely to be held on 6 May 2010 although the date had not been announced at the time of writing. The school is a designated polling station and we will need to make alternative arrangements for some of our Y2 children on that day. We will not close the school or send the children home unless it is absolutely unavoidable. We will let you have further information as soon as the date has been announced and we are then able to confirm our plans.

Lost Property

We will be checking lost property bins in the next few days for all named items which will be returned to your child. Any un-named or unclaimed items, including lunch boxes, plimsolls, water bottles etc will be donated to charity at the end of term. Lost property bins are located in the Y5/6, Y3, Y2 and FS cloakrooms and you are welcome to look through them all any day after school.

Sports

Cross Country

Twenty boys and girls from Year 3/4 and Y5/6 competed in the Stamford Cross Country competition on Saturday 13 March at Queen Eleanor School. Children finishing in the top ten of their races were: Alfie Earlam (8th boys Y3/4 race), Callum Scane (2nd boys Y3/4 race), India Anderson (10th girls Y3/4 race) and Daniel Tooth (8th boys Y5/6 race). Year 5/6 boys and Y3/4 girls both placed 4th overall and Year 3/4 boys placed 2nd overall. Well done to all who competed and a special thank you to Mr Tooth who was team manager at the event.

Football

The school football team continue to achieve some very pleasing results in the Stamford Schools' league. Recent results are:

Malcolm Sargent 2 v St Augustines 1
Bythams 4 v Malcolm Sargent 3
Bluecoat 1 v Malcolm Sargent 7
Malcolm Sargent 5 v Uffington 0

Miss Chappell organised the Stamford Schools' Football Tournament at school on 18 March. Malcolm Sargent Primary School was the winner – well done to the team! Coverage of this event should be in the Stamford Mercury.

House Sports (Cricket)

Mr Revell and Craig Keenan, one of our sports coaches, umpired the house sports for this term. Pulsatrix won the cup this year. Well done to all that were selected by their house captains to represent their house. Look out for this event in the Stamford Mercury too! The final results were:

1st – Pulsatrix – 9 points
2nd – Strigidae – 7 points
3rd = Tytonidae 4 points / Ninnox 4 points

Rounders will be the next house sports event.

House Points

The total house points awarded (as at 26 March) are:

Pulsatrix (yellow) 1115
Ninnox (red) 1041
Strigidae (blue) 1030
Tytonidae (green) 949

These figures change weekly as house point tokens are tipped into the "totaliser" tubes each Friday during celebration assembly, so well done again to Pulsatrix who are still in the lead - but only just!

Diary Dates

1 April 2010	End of Spring Term 4
19 April 2010	INSET Day
20 April 2010	Start of Summer Term 5
3 May 2010	May Day (School Closed)
6 May 2010	General Election (TBC)
10-14 May 2010	Y6 SATs Week
14 May 2010	Tempest Photos (Y6 and Sports Teams)
17 May 2010 @ 1800	Y5 Secondary Transition Information Evening
20 May 2010 @ 0900	Parents' Forum
21 May 2010 @ 1800	PTFA Charity Disco
28 May 2010	End of Summer Term 5
7 June 2010	Start of Summer Term 6
7-11 June 2010	Science Week
28 June – 2 July 2010	My Money Week
30 June 2010	Y4 - Schools and Churches Together Festival
1 July 2010	Y6 Parents Induction Evening at CBEC
2 July 2010	Y6 Pupils Induction Day at CBEC
7 July 2010	Y6 Pupils Induction Day at QE
7 July 2010	Y6 Parents Induction Evening at QE
8 July 2010	PTFA Rag Day
10 July 2010	PTFA Summer Fayre
12 July 2010	Y5 Pupils Taster Day at QE
13 July 2010	Sports Day
15 July 2010	Reserve Sports Day
16 July 2010 @ 1800	PTFA Summer Disco
21 July 2010	End of Summer Term 6
6 September 2010	INSET Day
7 September 2010	Start of Autumn Term 1 (Y 1/2/3/4/5/6)
9 September 2010	Start of Autumn Term 1 (Reception)
22 October 2010	End of Autumn Term 1
1 November 2010	Start of Autumn Term 2
17 December 2010	End of Autumn Term 2

We wish you all a very pleasant Easter and look forward to welcoming all the children back on Tuesday 20 April 2010.



Tristan Revell, Headteacher



Liz Town, Business Manager