



# New Christ Church Primary School

## Newsletter 5th February, 2010

### This week at NCC...

Another very busy week for us all! I had a productive meeting about renovating The Tank this week—RBC are keen to involve our children but also want local residents to share their ideas. I hope some of you will join us later this year in developing ideas; it really would be wonderful to create a proper play space for our children and young people.

As a Trustee of Aspire 2, I attend meetings regularly to discuss the work of this charity—recently we have received substantial funding which is enabling us to begin a project to create a residential centre based at Ufton Court—by doing so, we will be in a position to offer NCC children residential visits at minimal costs, which I'm sure you will agree is very exciting indeed.

Our school NAG were visited today by RBC Street Sweepers—this is as a direct result of their letters to local councilors about the state of the litter and graffiti in our community.

And, finally, children represented NCC views at the Food Frantics (School Meals) and the WEC Pupil Council this week—I'm delighted that our children are given opportunities to tell decision makers about the things they want to see in their schools and local communities.

Next week, our kitchen is being visited by Head Teachers from a London Borough as an example of good practice in provision of School Meals—we're really proud of the service Michelle and Philippa offer us and they do cook very tasty meals for everyone. Older children will also be completing a survey about the school meals, which will identify ways we can make things even better.

With very best wishes,

Head.newchristchurch@reading.gov.uk  
 www.newchristchurchprimarieschool.org.uk

### Congratulations

#### to...

Harsha—one of the Top 100 Mathletes this week!

### **Don't forget...**

- School Disco on Friday
- Meeting for Red, Orange and Yellow class parents about CAP project—Tuesday
- Football tickets offer

**Separate letters have been sent home**

### Free Computers and Internet Connection—children in Years 3, 4, 5, or 6!

The Home Access Project has been trialled in other areas and is now being rolled out in Reading. All families on low incomes are entitled to apply for a laptop and internet connection, provided free of charge. This is a first come, first served offer, so you will need to act quickly.

You are considered to be 'low income' if you are entitled to Free School Meals or if you receive any of these benefits: Income-based Jobseekers Allowance, Income Support, Child Tax credit (but not Working Tax credit) and an income less than £16,040, Guaranteed Pension Credit, Income based Employment Support Allowance or Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act.

To qualify, your child must be in Green, Blue or Violet classes, you must receive one of the benefits listed above and you shouldn't already have a computer in the household. If you think you are eligible, you need to call 0333 200 1004. You will then be sent an application form—I warn you now, this is quite a document, but don't let that put you off—staff at school can help you complete the form if you'd like us to.

This is a wonderful opportunity for those children who do not have access to the internet at home, so please act quickly so they don't miss out! Do speak with me if you have any queries or wish to apply.

## Blue Class Trip to Henley River and Rowing Museum

When my class and I went on a trip to the river and rowing museum, it was very exciting. First we did some interesting experiments to do with how a river flows. Next we went across a bridge with frightening holes in it. On our walk we learnt that you have to go through the lock. When we came back to the museum. We had some yummy scrummy lunch. After that we went for a tour and did some tricky questions. We had to really think. Last but not least we went to the shop with our 3 pounds most of us got a pencil a long rubber and a sharpener .

By Emily

## Red, Orange, Yellow Classes— Diary Date

**Tuesday, 9th February 2.00—  
Reading CAP**

CAP stands for Child Assault Prevention—this programme of workshops teaches children ways in which they can keep 'Safe, Strong and Free'. It's a super programme and will support your children in many ways. A workshop is held for parents before the programme starts so you can ask questions etc. Please come along!

### Thank you...

- For getting your children to school on time
- For parking and driving responsibly and safely
- For collecting your children on time at the end of the day
- For supervising your children in the mornings until 8.40am
- For not parking in the staff car park

**Most of you do these things every day and as a staff, we are incredibly grateful and appreciative.**

### How well is your child doing at school?

When we surveyed both parents and children in the Autumn, lots of people told us that they wanted more information on how well their child is doing at school. It is impractical for us to hold weekly meetings with parents, but we're trying some new approaches.

Over the past week, I have started to have 1:1 interviews with all children in KS2 and have provided them with information about their current level and what to do to move onto the next level.

Next Friday, we are also going to send home a mid-year report for all children in Years 1-6. This is a **brief** report which will tell you the level your child is currently working at and what their target is for the end of the year; it will also give you a summary of their attitude, behaviour, effort and attendance. It is a simple report and you will have questions you want to ask. At the start of March, we will be holding our termly consultation meetings for parents—please come to meet your teacher who will be able to answer all your questions and tell you what your child needs to do next to meet their targets.

Because of other commitments, these days will be the only times teachers will be able to meet with parents, so it is important that you make appropriate arrangements.

**Monday, 1st March Red, Yellow classes**

**Tuesday, 2nd March Green, Blue classes**

**Wednesday, 3rd March Orange, Violet classes**

**Do Not Park on  
the Zig-Zag  
lines—help keep  
our children  
safe!**

### Maths Questionnaires

Thank you for completing these—I will be in touch soon with details of our first workshop for parents.

### Contact Point

Please see the leaflet sent home today giving you information about this new database—Contact Point is a list of names and contact details for all professionals working with individual children; its purpose is to make it easier for professionals working with families and children. In order to become users of this system, we will undergo intensive training and there will be very clear protocols in place to maintain security and confidentiality.