



New Christ Church Primary School Newsletter 26th February, 2010

This week at NCC...

Welcome back to a new Term—as always your child have returned to school ready and keen to learn, it's wonderful to see them all again!

This week, the CAP project has started for our younger pupils; this project is all about empowering children to stay 'Safe, Strong and Free', which will hopefully help them all to stay safe in a variety of different situations. Next week, Orange class will be taking part—ask your child to show you the 'CAP Yell'!

I was visited by Kim Bergamasco, the new Head of School Improvement at RBC. She is keen to find out about our school's progress this year, particularly with maths. I was pleased to be able to show her the many improvements made this year and also tell her about the strong, supportive school family we have at NCC. She was unable to meet children on this visit, but hopes to return soon.

Thank you to all of you who came to the menu tasting this week—I do hope you enjoyed the food and were impressed with the quality—it would be great if more children chose to have school dinners over the coming term.

Today, I am visiting a school in Birmingham with other colleagues from Reading — Ofsted have judged the school as 'outstanding' - I hope that I will be able to steal lots of their good ideas to implement here so that NCC can become an even better school!

Another big weekend for us rugby fans—Mr Greasley and I will be cheering on our teams! I wish all of you and your families enjoyable and peaceful weekends,

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Congratulations

to...

Grace D, Supratha, Zara, Stanley who have all been in the Top 100 Mathletes over the last fortnight—well done!

Don't forget...

- Parents meetings next week
- Coffee with Maria Tues am
- World Maths Day on Weds

Attention All Car Drivers!

Despite my regular notices, several people continue to drive and park in the most selfish ways I can imagine—this week, one of you parked completely on the pavement opposite school, meaning no pedestrian could get by using the pavement. **To put children's lives at risk like this is just unacceptable.**

Please park away from the main school building and walk to school—doing this will help to keep all children safe.

Do not park in the Christ Church Centre Car Park—doing so creates lots of problems for staff, which includes preventing them from coming into school on time.

Avoid any reversing outside school—especially round the corner between Milman Road and Elizabeth Walk.

Coffee with Maria...

I am really keen to improve our communication with parents, gather good ideas to further improve the school and provide ways of answering your questions or concerns. To this end, I'd like to invite all parents to a coffee morning each month. I propose to hold these on the first Tuesday of each month from 9.00 to 10.00, in the staff room. This will be an opportunity for us to sit down informally and chat about all things concerning your children and the school - anything from ways to help with homework, to questions about secondary school.

The first coffee morning will be on Tuesday, 2nd March (next week) - please come along so I don't get too lonely in the staff room!

This is an informal arrangement—if you have serious concerns, please arrange to meet with me in private. I can not discuss any individual children or members of staff in these sessions.

Parents Meetings

These take place next week; many of you have made appointments already. For those who haven't, teachers will be sending home a time when they are able to meet you. Please do come and find out how well your child is doing at school!

Monday Red, Yellow Classes

Tuesday Green, Blue Classes

Wednesday Orange, Violet Classes

From 11.00-5.00pm

World Maths Day

This takes place next Wednesday (3rd March). To celebrate, we will be joining children from all over the world by taking part in a special Mathletics online event during the day. You can continue to support Maths Day by encouraging children to log on at home.

Is your child very able, gifted or talented?

Reading School are hosting a series of workshops for parents and children on Saturday, 24th April. The cost of workshops for children is £10, but free places can be provided for those entitled to Free School Meals. Further information will be displayed in the Parents Notice Board or call 01227767700, ext 3880/3260 for more information.

Reading Rescue—Help Spring Clean our Neighbourhood

Saturday, 13th March 1.00-4.00pm

Behind Aveley Walk Flats

Many of you will already be aware of the Reading Rescue event—this is an annual event where communities are invited to help Spring Clean the local environment. This year, along with Katesgrove NAG and St Saviour's Church, I'd like our children to make their contribution.

It's really important that children grow up being part of a strong community and that they understand their responsibilities for their environment. During the summer, I often see children playing in the area behind the Aveley Walk flats—there's lots of junk and litter round there and it would be good to tidy up the area to help keep them all safe.

RBC will provide all the equipment necessary and I will carry out appropriate risk assessments. **All I need is you!**

If you and your child(ren) and neighbours would like to come and help out, please complete the attached slip so I know how many people to expect. It should be quite good fun and is a wonderful opportunity to try and pull together to do some positive for our neighbourhood.

Lent Project

Every year we run a Lent Project—this year, you will already be aware that we have set a spelling challenge—children have been asked to collect sponsorship for learning to spell as many scientific words as they can. The money raised will go to Project India, a joint venture between the Dioceses of Oxford and Nandyal in Southern India—the Bishop of Nandyal (who visited NCC a few years ago!) wants to improve educational opportunities for the Dalit Children, who are often denied full educational opportunities. Money already raised has been used to build new schools for these deprived and very vulnerable children. During Lent, I will be visiting each class to show a special DVD highlighting their needs. Please do everything you can to help your child collect sponsors (safely!) and learn their spellings. Thank you!

Haiti Appeal

Thanks to your generosity, we raised £142.78 for this appeal.

We're just adding up the totals for our Advent Appeal for the Orphanage and I hope to let you have the grand total next week.