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MENGHAM INFANT SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was really lovely to see so many of you coming in to share our Family Learning sessions based around reading this week. The children love sharing time with you at school and we hope you find the sessions useful as a way of sharing the types of activities that go on.

The new flooring in our Early Years Area, funded by our Tesco bid, has been a massive hit with the children! Please pop in and have a little look after school if you haven't seen it yet. It's certainly bright and colourful and the team are now thinking carefully about using the new zones to further improve outdoor learning.

Our central quad area has also had a bit of an overhaul thanks to a group of students from Chichester University. They have worked with the children to try and create a brighter learning space that our Year One children can use and we are now just waiting for a few last resources to go in to complete it. Already, the Year One children have been using our newly painted yurt for some phonics sessions.

We have recently received some advice from Hampshire Health and Safety team about the use of school playgrounds before and after school. I therefore need to remind all parents that the play equipment on the playground is for use by pupils of Mengham Infant School only. It is designed for use by children aged 4 - 7 years. It is supervised between the hours of 9am - 3pm. Outside these hours the equipment is unsupervised and may only be accessed by pupils when they are being supervised by an adult. Neither the school nor Hampshire County Council can accept any liability for any damage and/or injuries sustained as a result of the use of this equipment.

Upcoming Diary Dates

Thurs 18th May - Year Two Parents Lunch

Friday 19th May - School Closed - INSET

Monday 22nd May - School Closed - INSET

Best Wishes

Lindsay Rebbitt
Headteacher

School Picnic Lunch Menu

The option for a school picnic lunch as per the new menu will be available as from Monday 15 May and should be ordered each morning in the usual way.

Car Parking

Please remember that we need to be courteous, and safe, when parking. We are extremely fortunate in that we have the free car park in St. Mary's Road. We fully appreciate that this gets busy, but cars must not park over the entrance to the fire station, nor in the private estate at Rook Farm, nor in people's driveways - unless you have permission to do so. If parking is a problem, we encourage parents to work together and offer lift shares if you have to drive to get to school. Perhaps looking at alternatives, such as cycling, walking or scooters. Thank you very much for continued support and cooperation.

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Red Nose Day

We are very pleased to say we raised the grand total of £1101.60 from our Red Nose Day. Well done to you all.

Half term attendance

We had a fantastic 89 children who had 100% attendance for the half term of February to the Easter holiday. The prize of an Easter basket was won by Ollie Keen - well done Ollie! We also had 42 children who had 100% attendance for the whole term from January. This is down to you getting your children to school, even if they are a little grumbly! Thank you.

Governor's Comment

You will, I'm sure, have heard that the Governing Board are actively recruiting new governors at the moment because we have sadly lost three of our governors recently. Our Chair of Governors, Susanne Lewis, has reluctantly decided to resign due to the pressure of other commitments. We will be sorry to lose her as she has been extremely helpful to us over the last 18 months. Mrs Lewis brought her extensive expertise as a governor and helped us make some essential changes which have improved the way the Governing Board functions. As Vice-Chair of Governors I have taken on the responsibilities of Chair now that Mrs Lewis has left. We will have elections later on this term.

We also had to say goodbye to Lisa Willis and Heather Slade last term, again due to pressures on their time. We are sorry to lose them both as they each brought important skills and expertise to the Governing Board. I'm pleased to hear that we have had interest from several people in becoming parent governors. We are also seeking to recruit governors from the local community who have the skills and experience we need to fulfil our vision of a school that is continuing to improve.

It seems to be the season for resignations! We were very sorry to hear that Wendy Bolton will be stepping down as Headteacher at Mengham Junior School. Mrs Bolton offered us a great deal of support after Mrs Randall retired and during Mrs Rebbitt's first year in post. The Governing Body would like to express our gratitude for all that Mrs Bolton gave to us. We wish her all the best for the future, and we hope that the excellent links that have been forged between our two schools will continue and grow.

Peter Cole

Chair of Governors, Mengham Infant School.

FOR SALE

We have a Summit GRP Trade 2 Section Fibreglass Extension Ladder with rope operation for sale. In good condition we would be looking to sell for around £120. Please contact the school office for more information.

Year R



Year R have been busy enjoying the new garden flooring, since Easter. They were amazed at the new 'coloured grass' and ran outside immediately to roll around on the new floor. This was the flooring paid partly from the Tesco Bags 4 Life scheme. It has extended our garden play

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space and we have had lots of use of space, even though it has been rainy!

The past 2 weeks our topic has been 'Healthy food and exercise'. The children have been doing lots of exercises and have even made fruit salads. All of our writing and maths have been linked to healthy food and exercise; we have been buying fruit and vegetables to practise using money and writing instructions of making fruit salads and how to exercise.

Week beginning Monday 8th May we will be starting our new topic on 'Toys'. We will be focusing on the story 'Dogger' and will also be asking children to bring in their favourite toy to talk about before the half term holiday.

Year 1

In Year 1 we have had a great start to the new half term and are enjoying our new topic 'Light and Dark'. In English we have been learning the story 'Can't you sleep little bear?' which we have loved acting out to each other. It is about a little bear who is afraid of the dark. We talked about what the dark is and what light is. This has helped us to understand the difference between light and dark. We are now changing the story and thinking of other animals and things they might not be able to do.



In maths we have been recapping how to partition numbers into their tens and ones. We are now moving onto addition and subtraction, looking at how to find the difference between different numbers. We are helping the bears from our story to work out how much money they have each and what the difference is between the two amounts.

In topic we are looking at light and dark and have been looking at the way our shadows move around the playground at different times of the day. We have been looking at the pictures from the story 'Can't you sleep little bear?' and the way the shadows are cast on the snow. We are going to have a go at drawing these ourselves with the shadows in the right places.

Year 2

We have had a good start to this half term. Our first English task was to write instructions. We followed diagrams to make paper boats which we then floated. The children suggested that words would be easier to follow. They then wrote instructions to make paper aeroplanes and when they had made them we flew them on the field. In maths we have been recapping all the different areas, for example multiplication and division, in preparation for SATS.

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This week we have begun to complete the SATS tests. We have been doing this in small groups whilst the others have taken part in fun activities such as making maps, working in teams to write directions, sports activities, playing the glockenspiels, etc. We have to say, the children are thoroughly enjoying the SATS tests and are doing very well.

The map work we have been doing is in preparation for our trip to the Historical Dockyard around which we will be basing our English topic.

If you wish to receive this newsletter by e-mail please ensure we have your up to date e-mail address. It is also available on the school website.

Visit our updated website at: www.mengham-inf.hants.sch.uk