



March 2017

MENGHAM INFANT SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'd like to start off our newsletter with a big thank you to all our parents who returned their letters supporting school in our opposition to the proposed school cuts. It is great to know that so many of you are behind us.

As part of our cost cutting analysis we are now looking to move as much of our communication with parents to electronic rather than paper. For this reason we have been ensuring that we have got parents most up to date e-mail addresses. This is a system now used in the majority of schools for sharing information efficiently with parents so we are hoping that it will not have any negative impact as we begin to work towards it.

Another area of funding that we will need to look at closely is school trips and visitors. School's are allowed to ask for a contribution towards the cost of these trips and events and historically we have made up any shortfall of payments from school funds so that trips can go ahead. On occasions we have had significant shortfalls. Unfortunately, we no longer have the sort of money available to cover large shortfalls so will instead have to cancel the trips. Obviously, we will do everything we can to avoid this as we value the enrichment that these activities bring to our curriculum. We are looking at ensuring trips are planned well in advance so that parents have enough notice of costs and offering instalment payments where it would help parents. We are also ensuring we are getting a range of quotes for transport and activities so that we can be sure that we are getting the best value we can.

On a happier note, we are looking forward to showcasing our Year One children's talents in their Year One production next week. The children have been busy rehearsing and are looking forward to performing in front of an audience. Unfortunately, since the original dates were set, I have been called to a meeting on Tuesday so will be attending the dress rehearsal on Monday whilst Mr Young gets the treat of the Tuesday performances.

Easter Celebrations

This year we will be holding some Easter celebrations to end our half term. These events will take place on Friday 7th April.

Easter Bonnets

We are encouraging the children to make Easter Bonnets to wear for an Easter Bonnet Parade. The bonnets will need to come into school with the children on the 7th April. They can be made from any hats/caps the children already have at home. I have also been told that stores like Tesco, Hobbycraft and The Works are also selling hats and kits at very reasonable prices. The hat needs to be Easter themed and be able to be worn!

Easter Parade

We will be holding an Easter Bonnet Parade in the playground (weather permitting) at 2.30pm on 7th April. This will give you a chance to admire the children's hard work.

FOM will be selling coffee and cake alongside the Parade so **cake donations** to school would also be gratefully accepted on the morning of the parade.

You will be allowed to take your child home following the parade so long as you have signed them out with your child's class teacher.



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Egg Rolling

Please can all children also bring a **simply decorated hard boiled** egg to school on Friday 7 April so that they can take part in an egg rolling competition.

Easter Lunch and Family Learning

As we recognise many of you will be coming in for our school Easter Lunch on the 7th we don't want you to have to leave just to come back again an hour later for the parade. We will therefore be inviting parents back to class with children in the afternoon to take part in some Easter activities. If you have children in different classes you are welcome to spend a little time with each of them. Parents will then be asked to move onto the playground at around 2.20pm so that we can get the children ready for their parade.

We are still awaiting final numbers for our Easter Lunch and once we have these we will be able to decide sitting times and numbers. A further letter will be sent home containing these details.

Sports Day - CHANGE OF DATE FROM ORIGINAL DATES SET

Due to unforeseen circumstances our school sports day will now be on TUESDAY 18th JULY not Friday 21st July.

Mother's Day

There will be a Mother's Day Service at St Mary's on Sunday at 10.30am. All welcome to attend.

Best Wishes

Lindsay Rebbitt
Headteacher

Half term attendance

We had 81 children who had 100% attendance for the first half of the Spring Term. Our prize of 4 passes to Funland was won by Vicky Inkpen. We would like to offer a massive THANK YOU to Funland for donating this prize.

Governor's Comment - School Fire Drill

A recent fire drill in school at midday was a great success for both children and staff. We decided to do this at midday to ensure we could effectively safeguard all children, staff and visitors around different areas of the school. This was achieved with the whole hall being cleared of all children and staff in just over 2 minutes and the whole school being completely evacuated and all rooms and areas checked by Fire Marshalls in just over 5 minutes.

I was very impressed by the behaviour of the children who remained calm and did as they were asked. One boy by the evacuation point even showed me his lunch box and drink exclaiming he would not be hungry if the school was closed for a while. A very worthwhile drill carried out extremely well indeed. Well done to everyone involved.

Peter Griffiths, Governor

Clothing plea

We are in need of underwear and small clothes that we can use for the children should they have an accident when they are at school. If you have any old items you could donate we would appreciate this. If your child is sent home in a change of clothes, please wash and return the clothes to school as soon as possible. Thank you.



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Year R

The children helped choose our current topic of 'Jobs'. They came back after the Half term to Heidi's Bakery and Café. They had great fun baking bread and serving hungry customers in the role play area..

After a visit from a local vets 'Vets 4 Pets' last week, we changed our role play and literacy focus to working as a vet. We have a waiting room full of pets waiting for bandages and treatments! The Vet taught the children how to look after their pets and all about fleas! We have a giant flea hanging from our ceiling which the children love!



We are looking at working at an Aquarium next which will involve our exciting trip to 'The Blue Reef Aquarium.'

Year 1

Year 1 have had a very exciting few weeks! We are busy rehearsing for our Year 1 production entitled 'Princess Florence and the Great Prince Rescue!'. The children are busy practising their lines and dances and are very excited to have their families to come and watch!

There have also been some unusual eggs spotted in Year 1. We thought that they must be eggs from a Dragon! We have been looking after them very carefully and are waiting for them to hatch. Hopefully it will be a friendly Dragon!



We also celebrated world book day. The children looked amazing in their adjective costumes. We used that to help us with our writing. We have now got some incredible new words to use! We also went to the junior school and enjoyed listening to their stories!

In maths we have been helping the dragons to count their eggs by adding and subtracting, and are now moving onto learning how to count eggs in groups.



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Year 2

What a lovely time Year two had on World Book Day. The children's costumes for dressing as an adjective were amazing. The children loved listening to the story 'Ozzie the Emu' being read to them by author David Jones. Year one and two also went to Mengham Junior School to have stories read to them that the junior school children had written. Year two was extra lucky because they had Year 10 pupils from The Hayling College come and read stories too.



The children have really got stuck into this half term's science. Looking at microhabitats in the school grounds and investigating what lives there and why. The children are also busy preparing for the Year 2 assembly which is on Tuesday March 21st at 2.45pm. Thank you to all the parents who came to see their child's work and talk with the class teacher's, it was great to see you all.

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