



STRAND NEWS

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NEWSLETTER 9 Summer Term 2010 25th June 2010

MADD Week (Music, Arts, Dance and Drama)

This week Reception Class have been looking at various artists in books and using their illustrations as a basis for their art work while Year 1 have focused on forest creatures.

Drumming Jam Workshop – Today all children started their day with an interactive showcase by Drumming Jam. As the day progressed each child was given the opportunity to participate in a fully interactive session playing African drums and a selection of other traditional African percussion instruments. The children had an amazing experience and the sounds of the drums could be heard throughout the school as each class took their turn

Next week Year 2 will enjoy their own version of MADD Week.

If you have not already done so, please hand in your donations to the school office.

Our Perform Workshop on Monday was a great success. The theme was 'Fairytale Forest' and as usual the children were completely absorbed and focussed by the facilitator that visited the school on Monday.

Year 2 Geography/Cultural Week

Year 2 have celebrated Geography/Cultural Week one week early. Lime have been learning about England this week which included a fantastic debate between Prince John and Robin Hood. Turquoise took a look at Scotland and in particular the Loch Ness Monster whilst Pink focussed on India covering topics such as elephants and tiger conservation,

Year 2 Borough Sports Day

Yesterday we participated in the annual borough sports day at Brentford Leisure Centre. Twelve pupils from our Year 2 classes took part in a variety of sporting events which included bean bag, rugby scoop, obstacle, athletics hurdles and relay races. Congratulations to Florence, Javell, Ruby and Aiden (Lime Class), Miles, Jake and Jules (Turquoise Class), Blessing, Luca and Jemimah (Pink Class).

Orleans House Gallery Workshop

We welcomed back Orleans House Gallery this week who worked with Reception and Year 1 on printing techniques.

Toilets

It has been brought to our attention that some children have not been using the new toilets in an appropriate way. We have worked hard with the Infant children to develop a real sense of respect with our new block and most children are behaving as we would expect. However a minority continue to offend, possibly at after school times. We ask parents to ensure that their Infant children don't spend excessive periods of time in the toilets at the end of day and also to ask Junior children to use their own block of toilets in the Junior building at this time.

Year 2 to Year 3 Transition work

Year 2 children are beginning to look ahead to Year 3 with their 'old' teachers and their 'new' teachers. All the children have now met with Mrs Harrison this week and had a chance to ask some questions and introduce themselves. We look forward to other events this term such as Year 2/Year 3 Q &A sessions and picnics with the new class teachers.

New Reception Parents Meetings

We were pleased to see so many of you attend the new Reception parents meeting this week. We hope the session was useful, please don't hesitate to ask any further questions about the year ahead if you need to.

Grovestock Saturday 19th June

We know many of you enjoyed this local event last week at St Paul's Church (Grove Park). Congratulations to Mrs Dwyer and the choir who joined the Juniors and other local schools to perform some of their songs and participate in a performance of 'The Age of Aquarius' from the musical HAIR. They worked with Mike Dixon, the musical director of this West End Musical and everyone really enjoyed the event.

Reception Reminder

If you have not already done so could you please return permission slips and donations for the Farm Visit and National Gallery trip as soon as possible.

Attendance

We would like to remind parents of the importance of regular attendance at school. Children who have good attendance achieve better in their learning than those who do not. Absence will not be authorised for holidays and is only authorised for sickness or very exceptional circumstances. Our attendance remains between 94-95% and this is too low. We would like to remind parents and carers that if our attendance slips below 94% and we are inspected by Ofsted this will be a limiting factor in judgements made. This means that no matter what other good things are achieved by the school and the children, poor attendance will bring down our overall judgement.

Scootering in the Playground

Many thanks for your support in asking children not to scooter in the playground at drop off and pick up time. Although there are a few individuals who continue to break the rules the majority of families are supporting the children to be safe at this time. We will continue to monitor the situation closely.

Wake Up, Shake Up and Punctuality

Many of you will have enjoyed Wake Up Shake Up once again this week (every Friday). Please remember that being in the playground early helps your child settle quickly in the line and means that they and their class have a focussed start to the school day.

Book Fair

We hope that many of you enjoyed the Book Fair again. Many thanks to Candy (Tyler's Grandma in Pink) who has helped to man the stall every day this week.

Date Reminders for the rest of this term:

28 th June-2 nd July 2010		Geography / Cultural Week
Friday 2 nd July 2010	1:30pm	Dance Event on the Field
Tuesday 6 th July 2010	4pm-6pm	Parents Drop in to see Teachers following reports
Monday 12 th July 2010	All Day	Transition Day – including - New Start Assembly, New Classes to New Teachers, and KS1 Parents meet the Teacher in the school hall at 2:30pm
Tuesday 13 th July 2010	2pm	New Reception Children 2010/2011 Picnic on the field, for children who did not attend Strand Nursery
Wednesday 14 th July 2010	2pm	Year 2 Leavers Show to siblings
Thursday 15 th July 2010	6pm	Year 2 Leavers Show & BBQ (parents only no siblings)
Friday 16 th July 2010	2:45pm	Parent Helper Thank you on the Field
Monday 19 th July 2010	9:30am	Year 1 Sports Event – Parents & Carers welcome
Monday 19 th July 2010	1:30pm	Year 2 Sports Event – Parents & Carers welcome
Tuesday 20 th July 2010	9:30am	Orange Class, Green Class & AM Nursery Sports Event – Parents & Carers welcome
Tuesday 20 th July 2010	1:30pm	Red Class & PM Nursery Sports Event – Parents & Carers welcome
Wednesday 21 st July 2010	1:30pm	Last Day of Summer Term - School Finishes at 1:30pm

Geography Week and the Dance Event (Friday 2nd July)

We are really looking forward to our Annual Dance Event next week. As usual it will form the end of our Geography Cultural week and parents/carers are invited to watch the performances of dances from all over the world on Friday afternoon (2nd July 1.30pm). After the performance you can collect your children early from their classes and sample the delicious national foods from the stalls around the playground. You will receive a plea for help to produce some food to represent the country chosen by your child's class very soon. Please do help, it is amazing how much food is eaten every year!

Tuesday (6th July)

Reports will be sent out to parents and carers next Thursday 1st July. If you have any questions or queries about the content of your child's report you are welcome to attend a consultation with your class teacher on Tuesday 6th July. Please let your class teacher know if you decide to attend so that the teacher can ensure they are available to speak with you.

Debra the Zebra Posters

Please return your Debra the Zebra posters to the school office by next Friday, 2 July.

Staffing and new classes for next year

We are looking forward to sharing arrangements for next year with you in the coming week. The children will enjoy a transition day on Monday 12th July when they will meet their new teachers in their new classrooms. Please note all Nursery children with places in next year's Reception classes will attend in the morning on that day. Those children not attending Strand next year will not come to Nursery on that day.

Junior News - Sports Fest

We have had a sports fest this week with the Interhouse Football, Tag Rugby, Cricket, Netball and Hockey competitions all taking place. The events ran concurrently and so almost everyone got a chance to take part either as a competitor or a spectator. It was great fun and fantastic to see so many children wearing their colours and working hard for their team. The final results will be announced to the children on Monday and published in next week's newsletter.

Friends thank you evening and AGM - Wednesday 30 June

Parents and carers are invited to the Friends thank you evening on **Wednesday 30 June** at 7.30.

Apologies for some notes which went out last week with an incorrect date on them.

This is a free social event to thank everyone who has helped with Friends activities over the year and to welcome those who may wish to get involved next year. We also combine this with a very short AGM which we are required to hold once a year. This event will take place on the school field – assuming good weather – or in the Community Room. Please come along and enjoy cheese and wine with other parents and carers, the two school heads and some other teachers.

At this meeting we will vote for the three committee roles for next year: Chair (currently a shared role), Secretary and Treasurer. The present Secretary and Treasurer will stand for re-election but we would like to give other people a chance to take on these roles too. Our current co-Chairs are stepping down, so there is a vacancy for someone to take this on, on their own or as a shared role. If you would like to stand for election please let the school offices know, in writing, by 4pm on Monday 28 June, and come along on 30 June for the voting, which will be done by a show of hands. To find out more about the roles, please contact the current committee members (see below). There are also many other smaller roles which need to be filled too. If you'd like to get more involved with the Friends please come along to the thank you evening on 30 June or a Tuesday coffee morning, or contact one of the committee.

Friends Committee

Co Chairs :

Cecilia Thwaites ceciliathwaites@googlemail.com 07817 892203

Jane Whittaker jane@logjam.co.uk 07905 035615

End of year bonanza

Just a reminder that the End of Year Bonanza will take place on Friday 9 July, on the Infant school field, from 5pm until it gets dark. There is no charge for entry to this event.

The evening will kick off around 5.00 with Wacky Races for parents, run by Mr Wreatham from the Juniors and Bernie Bacon. If you would like to take part please let your class rep know so they can include you in your class or year group team. Otherwise please come along and cheer on your fellow parents as they make fools of themselves!

Further entertainment will follow during the evening, including music from our very own Stranded and from ex-Strandite bands.

We will be selling soft drinks and snacks and there will be a bar. There will also be a barbecue. Anyone who has been to this event in the past will know how busy the barbecue always is. The food is great but be ready for a long queue! You may prefer to bring a picnic or at least something to keep you going while you wait for your hot food. We will aim to have food ready to sell around 5.30, and will continue to cook and sell food until we run out.

As ever, we need helpers to make this event work. If you can help with setting things up between 3.30 and 5.00, selling drinks etc or serving on the barbecue between 5.00 and 10.00, or clearing up on Saturday morning (10 July) between 10.00 and 11.00, please get in touch with your class rep or one of the committee :

Cecilia Thwaites	ceciliathwaites@googlemail.com	07817 892203
Jane Whittaker	jane@logjam.co.uk	07905 035615
Jo Duddy	joduddy1@o2.co.uk	07841 876905
Karen Brown	jimkaren123@tiscali.co.uk	07796201267

Many thanks. We look forward to seeing you and your family there. And please keep your fingers crossed for a warm dry evening!

Congratulations to Molly Nearchou in Red Class who sold the most Infant raffle tickets for the Summer Fair.

Molly wins a £10 Waterstones voucher for her efforts. And thank you to everyone else who sold or bought tickets this year.

Contact Details

If there have been any changes in your contact details (home, mobile, work, childminder etc) please let the school office know so that we can update your details.

Tesco/Sainsburys Vouchers

If you have been collecting the Tesco or Sainsburys vouchers can you please bring them into school as soon as possible.

**** STAR AWARDS ****

All the children were stars today for their excellent drumming

School begins at 8.55 am

Remember 8.56 am is LATE for school!