



STRAND NEWS

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NEWSLETTER –10 Autumn Term 2009

20th November 2009

Parents and Carers Consultation Evenings

We were really pleased to welcome so many of you to the Parent/Carer consultation evenings this week. If you haven't already seen your practitioners or arranged to do so, please make an appointment as soon as possible.

Handy Hero Update – the GSK handwashing project

Children are nearing the end of their series of challenges to achieve Handy Hero Status. The challenge for Reception children this week is to instruct someone at home in the correct technique for washing hands using soap and, maybe, to teach them the Handy Hero song! Year 1 and 2 children have also been singing the song, which they practise regularly in assembly. They have also been busy trying to count the different Wash Spots which have appeared around the school – these remind children to wash their hands sensibly with soap and water. Next week children face their final challenge before they Graduate from the Handy Hero Academy! Good luck with your tasks this week, everyone!

Nursery Reading and Writing Meetings

We hope that the Nursery Reading and Writing meetings this week were helpful for you to understand a little more about the Foundation Stage Curriculum and the ways we will be teaching these early basic skills.

Children in Need

We supported Children in Need today by enjoying our picnic with our visiting bears. It was great fun and we have raised lots of cash to support a good cause! If you didn't manage to give a donation please hand this into the Office.

Request for toys

MA Play Therapy students have elected to undertake supervised play therapy practice at our school. To enable students to conduct play therapy sessions with children at our school, we are asking parents who may have unwanted toys at home to donate them to set up a play therapy clinic. The donated play therapy toys will stay with the school. It is anticipated that this will encourage further placements for future Play Therapy students. Thank you to those of you who have already started bringing toys in!

Toilet Update

Work continues on the roof and the window frames and glazing.

Friends of Strand

Fabulous Christmas Trees

By popular demand, the Friends Christmas Trees offer is back again this year. Just a reminder: Orders must be in by Friday 27th November, or it will be too late!

Christmas Fair External Stalls

If anybody would like a stall for their own business (£25 per stall), please get in touch with Jo Duddy (Friends Secretary).

Christmas Fair Poster Winner:

Congratulations to Isabella Leamy, this year's winner. And congratulations to the runners-up: Lucy in 3R and Aniella Maciejcacyk in Blue Class.

Coffee Morning Excitement:

Tuesday 24 Nov, BYO (stapler) Party. To staple raffle tickets and letters.

Tuesday 1 December: Wrapping Party. To prepare presents for Santa's Grotto.

Creche

We are looking to start up the Creche again to enable parents to help out in their children's classrooms whilst younger siblings are looked after in the Community Room. Possible times are Wednesday or Thursday mornings or one afternoon a week.

If you would like to make use of the Creche on the basis of helping out in the classroom at least once or more a term, please write your name, contact number, sibling child's age and preferred session and hand into the School Infant & Nursery Office.

News from the Juniors – Video conferencing first steps

We had our first ever video conferencing (VC) this week using kit we have borrowed from the Feltham City Learning Centre. Andy Naslund in Y3 is developing a VC project with a school in the South of France and on Wednesday he had his first conference. Unfortunately, the French school had some technical difficulties and Andy and Ruth Woods, the Junior Deputy, ended up talking to a very nice man in Camden instead! Undeterred by this slightly-short-of-successful foray, Andy has plans for a second attempt to parler français in the near future. Once the adults have got to grips with the technology and protocols, the Y3 children will link up with their French counterparts. Conferencing with French children will be a great opportunity for both parties to improve their language skills and get a really good idea of what life is like in other countries.... And what an exciting way to learn a language!

Forthcoming Date Reminders

EY Maths Meeting Tuesday 1st December 9.10am

KS1 Maths Meeting Thursday 3rd Dec 9.10am

Please do come to the Maths meeting. It is a good way to find out about the Maths curriculum and to understand more about the methods of teaching calculation. We will be suggesting ways you can support your child with their learning.

Reminder from the School Office

Please remember to tell the school office if your child is absent from school **even if** you have told their class teacher. If your child is late for school it is important to sign them in the Late Book, even if the register is still in the classroom. If there was an emergency, which involved evacuating the school building, we would not know that your child had arrived in school.

REMINDER Friday, 27th November - INFANT SCHOOL CLOSED

Please do remember that the Infant School will be closed next Friday, 27th November, due to a planned occasional day.

***** KS1 STAR AWARDS*****

Yellow: David, Dana, Stan

Blue: Jaya, Sedaf, Mariam

Purple: Michelle, Ashley, Benya

Turquoise: Dominic, Natalia, Jake

Lime: Stephanie, William, Tom

Pink: Lucy, Vincent, Georgia

Remember 8.56 am is LATE for school!