



STRAND NEWS

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NEWSLETTER – 14 Autumn Term 2010

17th December 2010

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We hope you have a very restful, relaxing and enjoyable holiday and we look forward to seeing you in 2011!

Christmas Performances

A big WELL DONE to all the children who took part in nativity performances this week. All the children sang beautifully and the narrators and actors spoke very clearly. Thank you to all of you who were able to come along to see the show and thank you to all the staff who worked so hard with the children to put the show together.

Thank you for all your donations to the Tommy Hollis fund, so far we have raised over £550.

First Week of Spring Term

Staying Safe and Happy week starts on our first day back on Wednesday 5th January and lasts until Friday 14th January. Look out for more details about what your child's class will be doing on the weekly curriculum letter.

Clubs

Thank you for your quick responses to signing your child up for clubs starting next term. As you can imagine the places are going fast but there are still a few places remaining in Cultural Club for Year 2 and the external led clubs. If your child is interested in joining one of the clubs, please return your slip as soon as possible.

Library Books

Class Teachers will be signing up for library times in our school library during the first week of term. This means that the children will be able to choose one book each week from the library to bring home to read with you. Please share reading the books, help your child to look after them and bring them in on their library day every week so that they can change them. Look out for your child's library day on your curriculum information letter.

Pick Up Arrangements

We are aware of some congestion in the main corridor at pick up times. To try to ease this, please could Reception; Pink and Turquoise parents leave through the red shutters that are in between the two schools whenever possible.

Healthy Treats

Thanks to everyone who has contributed a healthy snack this term. The children really do appreciate an extra little treat on a Wednesday! Look out for the new signing up sheets outside classes. There is a little confusion about what we expect so to clarify this, the idea is that you send in something small that doesn't need preparation in class e.g. grapes, small oranges, carrot sticks etc that the children can enjoy. There just needs to be enough for each child to have a little bit.

Year 2 Violin Lessons

Violin lessons will resume on the second week back in the Spring term, Wednesday, 12th January 2011.

Lost Property

Please check through the lost property basket for any missing items. Anything left in lost property after Friday, 7th January will be recycled.

Christmas Raffle Update

Congratulations to Molly from Purple class who was the top raffle ticket seller in Infants - well done! The raffle made a fantastic **£3,200** for the school - thank you to everyone who bought tickets and bid on the auction prizes.

There are still one or two prizes that have yet to be claimed. Please take another look at the list of prize winners by the office to make sure you're not missing out on a fantastic prize!

Scooters at School

Could you please check your child's scooter to make sure you have taken the correct one home. All scooters should be named (preferably in indelible ink) on the bottom of the scooter.

Book Amnesty

Throughout the school we use guided reading as a method of teaching children to read. In order to do this, we need to have sets of 6 books to use so that each child in a group has their own book during the lesson. As you know, in Reception children then take their guided reading book home in order to read with you. Last year, to ensure we had enough sets of 6 books, we spent £1000 on books. Unfortunately many of these new books have not been returned and once again we do not have enough books to make up the sets which means that the range of books available to teach with is greatly reduced. Please can everybody, especially current Year 1 parents, search at home for **any** school books, which all have a school stamp inside them, and return them to us as soon as possible. There is a box in the corridor next to the office or you can hand them to your child's class teacher.

Absence from school

If your child is absent from school, for any reason, we ask that you advise the school office on the first day of absence in order that the absence can be correctly recorded, please update the school office every 3-4 days or if the absence continues into a second week. Schools are expected to report certain illnesses at certain times of the year. If you know in advance that your child will be off we would ask you to please put this in writing. Even if you have mentioned the reasons to one of the teaching staff, please also advise the office as this will avoid the office having to make unnecessary phone calls. Unfortunately it is not always possible for the office staff to pass reasons on to Class staff as absence numbers can at times be high.

Late Register

If you arrive at the school after 8.55 am please sign your child in to the Late Book next to the school office. Your child is considered late if they arrive after their class has left the playground for their classroom. Registers are taken first thing in the morning in class electronically and then cannot be amended by the class teacher. The Register and Late Book are the school's record of who is at school and needs to be accurate in case of emergency or evacuation.

Car Parking

Please be considerate when parking around our school. Please do not block anyone in or park across driveways/garages however short a period of time you will be away from your car.

School Drop Off in the mornings

Please make sure that your child is accompanied at all times and handed over to the class teacher or teaching assistant after the bell each morning. Under no circumstances should children be left on the school premises unaccompanied by a parent or carer.

Second Hand Uniform Sale

Please continue to bring in clean good quality second hand uniform for our next sale.

Junior News - Green Santa Strand Episode Airs on Monday

Year 4 were recently involved in the filming of a series called Green Santa for CITV. Well the wait is over and our episode will be aired on Monday at 4.20 on CITV. There are also small video clips shown each day on the Green Santa Website in the cinema section that you may want to check out for a glimpse of a Strandite! The fantastic items that Mrs Bonner and the team created are now on show in the entrance hall – why not pop in and have a look?

Friends Coffee Mornings

Friends coffee mornings continue every Tuesday after drop off, in the Community Room in the Junior playground. These are not formal meetings, but a chance for a chat and a drink. You are very welcome to bring younger siblings with you.

Strand Toddler Playgroup

Each Monday morning in term time (9am - 11am) parents can meet for a coffee and a chat (including a discussion on the possibility of setting up a crèche) whilst their toddlers play in the Community Room in the Junior Playground. The charge is £1 to cover the cost of refreshments.

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

Everyone is a star this week for being so brilliant in their Christmas Performances.

100% ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATES Autumn 2010

Naomi, Madeleine, James (**Orange**) Betsy, Ella, Seth, Alice, Megan (**Green**)
Daisy (**Red**)

Kyran, Peter, Joe, Sofia (**Purple**) Naomi (**Blue**) Oscar, Amelie (**Yellow**)

Joshua, Aniela, Lily, Mariam, Princess (**Pink**) Emma L, Kirstie, Joshua (**Lime**)
Jasmine, Cleo, Flora, Dana, David, Evie (**Turq**)

Remember 8.56 am is LATE for school!