



Oakwood Junior School May 2010

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Life in school is always busy! There's been a lot happening and the newsletter is a good opportunity to keep you updated.

We've had a very successful older person's afternoon when grandparents came into school to take part in a cooking demonstration with the children. We had so many reply slips that we had to run 2 sessions. The scones they cooked were delicious and the feedback was very positive, so we will be organising similar events in the future. The year 4's have been to Twycross Zoo, the Year 3's are practicing their Bollywood dancing and we've got Enterprise week to look forward to!

As I'm writing to you the year 6's are busy doing their final tests. This year there has been quite a lot in the news about this taking place, but having spoken to the teacher's involved and the governors we decided to go ahead on the grounds that our children's work isn't totally focused on preparing for the tests and their learning is enriched by an interesting and exciting curriculum. I am concerned about using these results in league tables but as parents you have a right to know how your child has progressed over their time with us. I'm not sure how, in the future, SAT's will develop and change, but decisions that are made in school are based on what is best for the children and their learning.



Enterprise week last year was really successful. The idea is for groups of children to work together as a team to design, make, market and sell a product at the Enterprise market on the 28th May. The product that raises the greatest profit will be awarded a prize at a special presentation assembly; you will be able to 'vote' for the most successful product using the tokens. More details will be sent to you nearer the time.

We're very proud of our carved owl sitting proudly in the open space just in front of the car park. The owl has been really admired by all.

Staffing

Mrs Roberts and Mrs Hodgkinson will be leaving at the end of term to have their babies and Mrs Lawrence will be returning just before summer from her maternity leave. Miss Winslow and Mrs Civval popped into school not so long ago to show us their babies and they should be returning to school sometime after Christmas. All babies, born and unborn and their mums are doing fine!

We're pleased that Mrs Noon has returned to school after a prolonged illness and is adapting well to being back at work, which is always difficult. We're really pleased to have her back. The latest news is that we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Riley at the end of this term as she leaves us to take up a Deputy Headship at Shelton Junior School. It won't be a proper goodbye because I'm sure we'll keep in touch but we will certainly miss her contribution to our school. So, all in all, lots of changes in the air. Life is never dull at Oakwood!



E Safety

One of our priorities this term has been a focus on specific lessons in the ICT Suite based on e safety. We have been reinforcing the precautions that the children need to take to stay safe. This has included raising awareness in terms of the dangers of giving information about themselves on social and gaming sites, the importance of privacy settings and MSN. The focus of the lessons, have centred on information and videos from <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk>. There is a link to this site and other internet safety links on our school website in the links section of the learning zone. Take a look around this with your child - it's very informative for all ages.



Parent's Questionnaire

Just before Easter we sent out a parent's questionnaire to all children in years 3 and 6 and to a sample in years 4 and 5. 68% of questionnaires were returned - so many thanks to everyone who took their time to give us feedback. 98% of responses to all the questions were really positive and the areas where you felt we needed to make improvements related to giving you more information about your child's progress. As a result of this we will be looking at how we can make improvements. I would like the parent's forum to discuss this with me (sorry I had to postpone the last meeting, but I was ill). I'm proposing to reschedule this meeting for Monday 14th June at 2.15. If you'd like to come along, please get in touch.

News in Brief

We have just received a letter to say that our crate of celery has been selected for display at the Chelsea Flower Show from over 22,500 applications! How wonderful is this. Well done to all who planted, watered and tenderly looked after the celery, I shall keep you posted.

A big thank you to all parents who have sent in Active & Tesco vouchers, also Mrs Carter would like to say thank you, to all who made her send off so special. Our school nurse will continue with her drop in sessions at Bolton Children's Centre dates are May 25th @ 8.30; June 15th @ 3.00; June 30th @ 8.30 & July 14th @ 3.00



Dates this term

- 18.05.10 Parent's workshop outlining the methods we use in school to teach calculations. This has been requested a number of times by you. There will be 2 workshops on the day. School letter sent out Wednesday 12th May.
- 21.05.10 Upper school Achievement Assembly
- 24.05.10 Enterprise Week
- 28.05.10 Enterprise Market (More information to follow)
- Break up**
- 07.06.10 Return to school**
- 11.06.10 Mrs Roberts Class Assembly
- 14.06.10 Assessment Week for Year 3, 4 & 5
- 18.06.10 Miss Dee's Class Assembly
- 21.06.10 Children's well being week
- 24.06.10 Lower School Achievement Assembly
- 25.06.10 **Inset Day.** School closed for children
- 01.07.10 Special books to go home
Mrs Enright's class assembly
- 02.07.10 Miss Murfin's class assembly
- 06.07.10 All children meet their new teachers
Year 6's go to their new schools
- 08.07.10 One World Evening event for parent's
- 13.07.10 Year 6 trip to Conkers
- 14.07.10 Reports go out to parents
- 15.07.10 Sports Day
- 23.07.10 **Break up**



Kind regards

Nancy Elks
Headteacher