
Redland School News

Volume 13 Issue 1

4th September 2009

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers

Welcome back to the new academic year
2009 - 10!!!

I hope everyone had a great summer break and enjoyed quality family time, resting and recharging the batteries!!

A warm Redland welcome to all new families and a big friendly "HELLO" to our youngest children joining us in FS2 who have embarked on their school life. There are new children who are also joining us throughout the school and I know our "old hands" will be supportive and friendly to all these new faces!!

Please say a welcoming "hello" on the playground to our new mums and dads.

New Staff

Victoria Keates has joined us as the class teacher for Kingfishers and as our new Maths and Music Co-ordinator. Welcome to the Redland team Victoria!!

Catherine Harris has joined us as a new TA and Phillipa Bulpin as a MDSA. As parents you already know our school~ welcome on board!!

Dates for the Diary

FORS AGM - 18th September

Harvest Festival Produce Sale - 1st October
(A letter will be sent out asking for donations at a later date)

TD Day - 2nd October (No children in school)

Individual Pupil Photographs - 8th October
(More information will follow)

Fizzy Disco - 15th October (FORS will send out further information)

Half Term - 22nd October to 30th October

Return to School - 2nd November

Parking

At the start of this new year I need to plead with our car driving parents to be **extra** careful and respectful to our community neighbours. Please **do not** obscure or park near the school crossing or driveways. Your help in this matter would be gratefully appreciated.

New Starters in September 2010

The primary school application process is now underway for September 2010 and you must complete the forms to secure a place for your child. If you have a child who is due to start school please collect an application form from the office - urgently!!

You can apply on line at www.wiltshire.gov.uk for your place. If you do apply on line can you please inform the office. Thank you.

Pushchairs

I must respectfully remind all parents especially our new mums and dads and carers that we **do not** allow pushchairs and buggies in the main school building. Our cleaning team spends a very long time steaming the carpets over the school holidays and we want them to stay in tip top condition and keep the level of dirt to a bare minimum. Your support in this matter is much appreciated.

School Meal Eligibility

We are more than aware about the present economic climate which can change family circumstances. If, sadly, you are affected by redundancies and a possible change in your earning capacity, please contact the office to enquire if you are eligible for free school meals. This will be handled in a sensitive and confidential manner.

Labelling Uniform

Please, please ensure that every item of uniform is named. We always have a huge lost property stash and it is impossible to return items to the rightful owners if not named.

FORS (Friends of Redland School)

The FORS AGM will be held on the 18th September in the school at 7.30pm. Please attend this meeting and support the fabulous group of volunteers who are, without doubt a magnificent force within the school!!

Holidays

We are **strongly** recommending that parents **do not** book any holidays in term time. Some schools are now issuing fixed penalty fines, if parents insist on removing children from school.

I will **not** authorise any holidays in May due to the SAT's testing and pupil assessing. The actual SAT's testing week for Yr6 pupils is May 10th - 14th. Assessing and testing for Yr2 pupils is carried out throughout May

KS2 Music Tuition

There are places available for private music tuition for the saxophone, clarinet and flute. If your child is interested please contact the office for further information.

Email Address

If you would prefer your newsletter sent by email please contact the office who will arrange this for you.

Dogs

Please could I remind parents that dogs are **not** allowed in the school building or anywhere in the school grounds. They must be tethered outside the school perimeter fence. This is a Health and Safety rule that Wiltshire Council insist we enforce.

Redland School News**Clubs**

Clubs will be starting on Monday 14th September. If your child signs up for a club we would like your support and backing to insist your children show commitment to attend the clubs each weekly. The teachers run these clubs on a voluntary basis and their time and energies need to be appreciated by the children. The clubs run from 3.15 to 4.15pm and we will always try to give you advanced warning if a club has to be cancelled due to training etc. I'm sure you will agree, this is a fantastic choice of clubs and I wish to thank our teachers for their energies in running these clubs especially after a long teaching day!!

Monday	Netball Yr 4/5/6	Mrs Rolfe
	Art Yr 5/6	Mrs Joy
	Hockey Yr 5/6	Miss Keates
Wednesday	Beginners Recorder KS2	Miss Chambers
	Film Club KS2	Mrs Francis
	Football KS2	Mr Vincent
Thursday	Drama KS2	Mr Smith
	Art Yr 3/4	Miss Waldron
	Newspaper Club KS2	Mr Lee
	Lacrosse Yr5/6 up to $\frac{1}{2}$ term Lacrosse Yr 3/4 up to Christmas	American Professional Player

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Front Door

Can I remind all parents the front door is **only** to be used if you have to pass information on to the office staff. The children must use the doors closest to their classrooms.

Phone Calls to the School Office

Can I please politely request that parents **only** call the office for emergencies. Mrs Paynter and Mrs Bowling are not "Liaison officers" between parents and children's social events!! We do understand and sympathise with parents when they are delayed due to traffic hold ups or family emergencies and we will always pass on messages. However, I do draw the line when parents ring up and ask the ladies to pass on messages regarding after school social events and domestic arrangements such as "Remember to bring home your football boots", "Walk straight to the Olympiad, I will meet you there", "Bring home books from the library, I need to change them", "Bring home your training shoes, we are going away this weekend". I hope you can see where we are coming from with this issue!!!

PE Kits

We strongly recommend that children bring home their PE kits every fortnight to be "freshened up" on a Friday evening and returned on Monday. Thank you for your help in this matter.

And finally.....

The term has begun smoothly and it has been a **real** delight to visit all the classes and observe the industrious and harmonious atmosphere in each room, with happy smiling faces!!

It is perfectly natural for children (and their parents) to be concerned and anxious when they enter a new class and are mixing with new children and being faced with the opportunity of making new friends.

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I hope parents appreciate that the time and energy teachers put into class organisation is huge and is discussed at length with myself and the Senior Management Team. I hope any concerns over moving class you or your children may have had, are well and truly gone!!

It is essential children have a wide circle of friends and have the skills to mix and work with a range of other pupils. Remember, there is at least 1 hour in total every day, when children can play with "best friends" from other classes.

Teachers always ensure "best friends" do not work together in class to avoid over reliance on each other. We want our children to develop individual strengths and skills and not to live in each others pockets. Also, once our pupils pass onto secondary school with the choices of schools, number of pupils and tutor groups, inevitably children end up making new friends and are not able to be with best friends from their Primary School.

We are looking forward to another exciting and fulfilling year here at Redland.

We value and appreciate your support and with you the parents and Governing Body truly behind us, we can achieve even more success.

Remember, if you have any questions or worries, please do not hesitate to ask class teachers or myself. Your child's education is a partnership between school and home and we want to make it as successful and rewarding as possible.

Best Wishes

Hilary Walton
Headteacher