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# Redland School News

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Volume 13 Issue 2

7<sup>th</sup> October 2009

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Dear Mums, Dads and Carers

October is here, and the weather is becoming more autumnal each day! (Let's keep our fingers crossed the weather stays dry to avoid those damp winter blues!!)

A focus in school for the next two terms is "SAFETY" which is one of the nine Priorities for our whole school. Safety is one of our school priorities that underpins the whole ethos of our Learning and Teaching Policy.

The other priorities are - Physical Health, Stimulation and Creativity, Skills for Life, Intellectual Health, Breadth and Depth of Learning, Personal Success and Achievement, Valuing Everyone and Emotional Health.

Some parents will remember a successful "3 Health's Week" and last year's two focus priorities which were Stimulation and Creativity alongside Breadth and Depth of Learning where teachers created greater opportunities for cross curricular links and linking our curriculum areas.

Safety encompasses all aspects of safeguarding children e.g. Child Protection issues, Stranger Danger, Drugs and Drink awareness, Road Safety, Water Safety, Safety in the home, Personal Safety.....to name but a few!!

We would really appreciate your support and encouragement at home with these areas of your child's development.

Continuing with keeping our children safe, we will now operate the following policy:

- Mrs. Paynter and Mrs. Bowling will take any forgotten items that you bring in i.e.

lunch boxes, PE kits etc. to your child in their classroom.

- Parents will be able to administer any additional medicines during the day in the medical room accompanied by a member of staff.
- Parents will need to wait in reception for their child to be brought to them for any medical appointments.
- Parents need to wait in the foyer/car park to collect their child/children after clubs.
- We already have a policy of CRB checking every volunteer helper. If you are considering offering your help in classrooms, please come into the office and speak to Mrs. Bowling or Mrs. Paynter who will give you a form to complete and return.

## GOVERNOR VACANCIES

We have two vacancies for governors at the moments. We really need parents who can show a genuine commitment to the whole school. It is one of those roles where you have to put your "parent" head to one side and see the whole school and not your child. Confidentiality is paramount and we must have parents who see this as a real commitment even though it is on a voluntary capacity.

If you feel you have the needed strengths i.e. energy, time, commitment, enthusiasm, patience and understanding.....you may be who/what we are looking for!!

Please come and chat to myself or Mrs. Fran Bowling, the Clerk to Governors (who also works in the office).

**FREE 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.

**JEWELLERY**

As you will appreciate for Health & Safety reasons, jewellery must be kept to a minimum. Small stud earrings are permitted and a watch. Hoops or dangling earrings, bracelets or necklaces and rings are not allowed and will be confiscated and given back to children at the end of the day.

**OFSTED**

It is three years since our last successful Ofsted where we were deemed as *GOOD* in all areas. We are now in the cycle of the new round of Ofsted inspections and we are ready for the call. Our Senior Management Team has undergone the latest Ofsted "update" training and there are many noticeable changes. We have been strongly advised to inform parents that Ofsted have clearly "lifted the bar"!!.....meaning the previous grades of satisfactory, good and outstanding are much more difficult to achieve. As a school we are striving for the best as we possibly can. As always we will use the Ofsted findings as way to continue to and develop our school. Your continued support and energies are always needed - parent helpers are definitely needed. We must continue our strong partnership between home and school.

**ABSENCE REMINDER**

Please telephone the office to inform them if your child will not be attending school that day due to sickness. We also need to know if your child's illness continues after one day.

**DISABILITY EQUALITY**

We are in the process of setting up a working party to look at disability equality at Redland School.

We would like this group to involve a parent or carer with a disability. Please note, this does not need to be an 'obvious' disability such as being in a wheelchair.

If you are interested in helping to develop disability equality at Redland School and could spare some time to meet with our SENCO and a small group of governors, please leave your contact details with Mrs. Paynter or Mrs. Bowling in the school office and we will be in touch with you soon.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- 8<sup>th</sup> Oct Individual/Family Photos
- 14<sup>th</sup> Oct 8.45-10.00 New Parent Coffee Morning
- 15<sup>th</sup> Oct Fizzy Disco
- 21<sup>st</sup> Oct Break Up for half term**
  
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov Return to school**
- 10<sup>th</sup> Nov Parent/Teacher Consultations
- 12<sup>th</sup> Nov Parent/Teacher Consultations  
(dates and times will follow)
- 13<sup>th</sup> Nov Cake Sale  
(information from FORS to follow)