
Redland School News

Volume 13 Issue 6

14th January 2010

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers

Welcome back to school! After two weeks disruption, we are eager to get our children back 'on track'. The snow has given the children a lot of pleasure and has been beautiful to look at but has caused a disjointed start to our term. Thank you for your patience and understanding. The closures were totally unavoidable and all the Chippenham head teachers had to risk assess their site and situations regarding our schools. The following questions had to be considered:

1. Is the site safe to get to, and to move around on?
2. Is the school confident that a minimum number of staff which is required to provide quality supervision can actually get to school?
3. Is it reasonable to expect staff to travel to school in difficult circumstances when there is a significant and exceptional risk to their own safety?
4. Is the infrastructure of the school working - heating and water etc?

If the answer to any of these questions is NO then the head teacher could confidently close the school.

I hope the above points clarify for you, as parents, the reason for our closure, in line with all the other schools in Chippenham who also closed.

DRUGS AWARENESS NIGHT

It has been a while since we ran an evening on Drugs Awareness for our parents and carers. On Wednesday 10th February PC Sally Pullen

and the Neighbourhood Policing Team will be running a meeting to give you up to date information and guidance on drug awareness. As a school we feel it is important to offer you as much advice and support as possible to enable all of us to keep our children safe and secure. We will send out information nearer the date and slips for your attendance.

25TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY NIGHT

There are a very, very few tickets left for this 'Event of the Year'! Please don't be disappointed, come into the office and buy your tickets. It will be a great night with Pete and his band and the food will be delicious. At £10 a ticket this is exceptionally good value. We look forward to seeing as many parents as possible. We would like to raise as much money as possible for Help for Heroes and the Kennet and Berkshire Canal Trust.

DRAMA DAY - THURSDAY 21ST JANUARY

Last term our focus through the School Priorities was Safety. This term we are focusing on a different priority - Valuing Everyone. Your children may come home and talk about this and we hope there will be a change in their perceptions on how they can appreciate, tolerate and accept each other. We are holding a Drama Day to give the children an opportunity to explore different ways in which they can value all the children and people around them. The Drama Day will embed further the ways in which we value each other and hopefully promote better friendships and the ability to "get on" with each other.

THE HOME ACCESS PROGRAMME

This is a Government Programme which will help children have access to laptops and support their learning at home. This is for children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. If you are a family who meet the eligibility criteria of which one is Free School Meals, you will be able to apply for a Home Access Grant to purchase a computer and internet package. The package includes one year's service and support, MS Office, firewall and anti-virus cover. Please come into school and collect the information sheet on how to apply for the Home Access Application Grant. This is a great opportunity to help families have access to more technology which will increase learning potential - which leads perfectly into the next item.....

FREE SCHOOL MEALS ENTITLEMENT

Please come into the office and inform us if there has been a change in your circumstances and you are claiming any family benefits. You may not want to take part in our sandwich provision for your children, but as a school we must register all parents and families who are eligible for Free School Meals. All the information and data is sent to Wiltshire Council and forms a part of the school census. These figures make up a 'picture' of the school and we are graded/measured accordingly on this data, along with SATs results, attendance etc. etc.. We would want all of our data to be as accurate as possible. Therefore please come into the office and speak with either Mrs. Bowling or Mrs. Paynter in a confidential manner and they can give you further information. Remember you do not have to take up the sandwich provision but we do need to know if you qualify. Thank you so much for your support with this.

PARENT HELPER ID BADGES

You may be aware that all staff wear the school identification lanyards. Can we remind you as Parent Helpers, as yet another strand to Safeguarding Children, that you must sign in at the office and collect a lanyard when you come in to support class teachers. Thank You.

PARENT SUPPORT ADVISOR (FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE FAMILY LINK WORKER)

We have a new PSA - Diane Curtis. Her contact details are as follows - 07536107502 and email diane.curtis@psachippenham.org Diane will be sending out a flyer to give you more information of the services she can offer parents, carers and families. Please do not hesitate to access Diane as she is hugely experienced and will be an asset to our school.

RECEPTION CHILDREN FOR SEPTEMBER 2010

If you have not notified Wiltshire Council of your 3 and 4 year old children, I must urge you to do so as quickly as possible to secure a place here at Redland School. Likewise, if you know of any new parents who may not realise that they need to register for September, they must do so immediately.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 15 th Jan	TD DAY
Tuesday 19 th Jan	BIBLE CLUB BEGINS
Thursday 21 st Jan	DRAMA DAY
Monday 25 th Jan - Friday 29 th Jan	SCIENCE WEEK
Friday 29 th Jan	BOOK FAIR
Saturday 30 th Jan	25 th ANNIVERSARY PARTY
Wednesday 10 th Feb	DRUGS AWARENESS MEETING FOR PARENTS
Thursday 11 th Feb	FIZZY DISCO
Friday 12 th Feb	CAKE SALE
	END OF TERM

CLUBS FOR TERMS 3 AND 4***Monday -***

Yrs 4/5/6 Digital Arts Miss Keates
 Yrs 4/5/6 Netball Mrs Rolfe

Tuesday - Bible Club

Wednesday -

KS2 Film Club Mrs Francis
 School Team Football Mr Vincent
 (until end January)
 Yrs 3/4 Football Mr Vincent
 (from Feb)
 KS 2 Recorders Miss Chambers
 (Lunchtime 12.30)

Thursday -

KS2 Drama Mr Smith
 Yrs 3/4/5/6 Lacrosse Mr Tolson
 KS2 Board Games Mr Lee
 Yrs 5/6 Art Mrs Lord
 Yrs 3/4 Art Miss Waldron

Friday -

KS2 Tag Rugby Mr Lee and
 (Lunchtime) Mr Vincent

The Dance Club run privately by Verena is on a Monday for KS1 and Friday for KS2. Please note this club finishes at **4.00pm**. **There is a charge for this: £3.50 per lesson.**

As ever your support is essential and we look forward to working in a productive partnership with all our parents and carers. We always wish to be proactive and we hope you all take advantage of our open door policy. We always encourage [parental help and we would be delighted to see more parents in our school supporting the learning in each class.

Here's to a great 2010.

Headteacher