

East Brent Church of England First School

Newsletter

Newsletter Number 2

Wednesday 12th September 2007

This term has started really well despite the builders being on site. The children have all settled well into their classes and are working hard. This is an important newsletter as it contains lots of information, please keep it for future reference. There will be a copy of this newsletter and all newsletters on the school web site at www.eastbrentfirstschool.co.uk and on the school notice board.

Topics: This half term the whole school is working on 'Food and Farming' topic. The children will be visiting two differing farms and seeing how local agriculture provides food. It will also be part of our Harvest Celebration when we give thanks for the abundance and diversity of food that we enjoy. If you have any artefacts or information that will help us with this topic then please send them in. The first visit is a short morning visit to Maundrills Farm at West Huntspill on Tuesday 25th September. Please complete the permission slip at the end of this newsletter; the cost of the coach for this will be met from school funds. If there are any parents who could help with this visit please see class teachers. The children will need to wear school uniform with a coat and Wellington boots. They will not need money or food as the children will be back in school for lunch.

New building: Building work on the new storage space at the back of the hall is progressing well and it is anticipated that the Hall will be ready for our use from Monday 17th September. Assembly, lunches, music lessons and some clubs will begin from 17th September.

Security Gates: The gate to the outside classroom and the new gate at the top of the path have been fitted with security locks. Once the builders have left the site then parents wishing to enter the site to visit the office will press a button on the top gate and speak into an intercom to Mrs Currie in the office who will release the lock on the gate, entry via the lower gate will not be possible without a member of staff being present.

End of Day arrangements seems to be going well, we have stressed to the children that only adults can use the wooden gate they should enter and leave by the kissing gate with their parents. We have suggested to children that if their parent is not in the playground at the end of the day they should wait at the picnic tables, to avoid any congestion at the gate. If you have any ideas or comments on improving this system then please let me know.

Music Lessons: Mrs Steady will start her music lessons on Thursday 20th September.

Swimming: Swimming lessons for Years 3 & 4 start on Wednesday 19th September. This is an important part of their PE curriculum and will be for 10 weeks. The children will travel by coach to The Leisure Centre at Cheddar and will receive lessons from 2 qualified swimming coaches. To cover the cost of the coaches and the swimming teachers we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £20. Your child will need to bring a swimming costume/trunks and a towel in a labelled waterproof bag. We strongly recommend that girls with long hair wear a swimming hat especially when the weather gets colder. If there are any parents who could help with taking the children swimming please let me or Ms Hare know an extra pair of hands would be useful.

Polite Reminder: Please do not use mobile phones whilst driving and also park considerately in Church Road.

Parent Meetings: Class teachers will meet with all parents next week to go through the routines of the class and the events that will be coming up through the year. At these meetings I will also outline the assessment arrangements for each class. These meetings will last approximately 30 minutes and take place in your child's classroom. There will be a crèche for children in the outside classroom. These are general meetings, there will be an opportunity for individual consultations in November. If you have any specific concerns please see your class teacher or me.

Monday 17th September: 3.20 pm Mrs Plummer/Mrs Bowkett for Years 1 and 2

Tuesday 18th September: 3.20 pm Ms Hare

Parents of Reception children will have their meeting with Mrs Bowkett in October when the children are full time.

Attendance: If your child is not attending school please telephone the office 01278 760490 by 9.15 am, please leave a message on the answer phone machine if the office is unattended.

Medicines: If your child needs to take medicine during the school day, please give it to myself or a member of staff and you will need to complete a form and sign the medicine record book.

Tuck Shop: KS 2 will be running their own healthy tuck shop called Squirrel Snacks during morning break. They will each have a little pot of fruit and vegetables at a daily cost of 30p. We will run the first week free of charge and then ask the children to commit to a regular option of morning snack. Payable daily, weekly or half termly by cheque. (cheques made payable to East Brent First School).

Breakfast Club: known as BACK (Breakfast, Art and Craft for Kids) Club runs every morning from 7.50 am, £2 per day, please see Mrs Holmes and Mrs Karen Wright for details.

Yew Trees after school collection: if your child is regularly going on the Yew Trees transport after school please let us know and we will keep a permanent record for all staff on gate duty.

The Piper: Mr Gosling is very kindly making a DVD of the The Piper production; if you would like a copy the cost will be £10 please let Mrs Currie know so that he can make the required number. If you have any costumes at home that belong to Mrs Holmes please return them to school.

PTA AGM: Thursday 27th September, 7.30 pm in school hall. We would be pleased to see all parents, there will be Wine and Nibbles to entice you.

Volunteers: If you have any spare time and are able to help in school in any way then please let me know. We need parents/grandparents to help with the library rota; testing children with tables and to hear children read. Ms Hare needs some help with a Food Technology topic during week beginning 24th September just for 1 week of afternoons. We need to apply for CRB checks for all adults working in school.

Winscombe Mini Rugby Club runs on Sunday mornings if you would like more information please contact Simon Reece on 01934 843707.

Dates: Parents Meetings - Poppies Class/Ladybirds Years 1 and 2 Monday 17th September 3.20 pm
Hedgehogs Class Years 3 and 4 Tuesday 18th September 3.20 pm
Whole School Farm Visit to Maundrills Farm - Tuesday, 25th September
PTA AGM Thursday, 27th September 7.30 pm School Hall
Visit to second farm - Monday, 15th October - details to follow
Harvest Celebration - Tuesday, 16th October at St. Mary's Church 2.30 pm

Please ensure all uniform is labelled. Can you check that your child has the correct cardigan as someone has taken the wrong one by mistake. If you have any concerns at anytime please contact me or class teachers.

Heather Hector (Mrs)
Headteacher

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TO: EAST BRENT FIRST SCHOOL
Visit to Maundrills Farm: Tuesday 25th September 9 15 am - 12 noon:

I give permission for my child _____ to visit Maundrills Farm on Tuesday, 25th September.

Signed: Date:

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TO: EAST BRENT FIRST SCHOOL
Swimming - Wednesday mornings

I give permission for my child to go swimming and enclose a voluntary contribution of £20.

Signed: Date:

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TO: EAST BRENT FIRST SCHOOL

After School Clubs: If your child is interested in attending any of the following clubs please complete a form for each. We will need to measure the support for each club to check that it is viable. Wednesday PE Club with Mrs Beresford requires there to be a termly charge of £20. It is an important asset to our school to be able to offer so many after school clubs but it does rely on the goodwill and generous spirit of our teachers and coaches. All clubs will run irrespective of weather so please ensure that your children have warm kit and appropriate footwear. Please note the start date of these clubs.

- Monday Sports Club with Miss Claridge - Monday 24th September
- Tuesday Music Club with Mrs Bowkett and Mrs Plummer - Tuesday 25th September
- Wednesday PE Club with Mrs Beresford - Wednesday 19th September
- Thursday Club with Miss Claridge - Thursday 27th September
- Football Club with Mr Munchin - Thursday 20th September
- Tennis Club - we will advise when we have an idea of numbers.

All forms to be returned to the School Office as soon as possible. Thank you

Monday Sports Club: Miss Claridge - Open to years 2, 3 & 4 3.15 pm - 4.15 pm (games and skills)

My child _____ would like to join Monday Sports Club

Signed: _____

Tuesday Music Club: Mrs Bowkett & Mrs Plummer Open to years 1, 2, 3 & 4 3.15 pm - 4.15 pm (singing and performing).

My child _____ would like to join Music Club.

Signed: _____

Wednesday PE Club: Mrs Beresford Open to years 1, 2, 3 & 4 3.15 pm - 4.15 pm (all aspects of PE)

My child _____ would like to join PE Club and I enclose £20

Signed _____



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Thursday Club: Miss Claridge Open to years 2, 3 & 4 3.15 pm - 4.15 pm (art, craft and RE)

My child _____ would like to join Thursday Club

Signed _____



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Football Club: Mr. Munchin Open to girls & boys from Years 3 and 4 3.15 pm - 4.15 pm

My child _____ would like to join Football Club

Signed _____



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Tennis Club: The Avenue Tennis Club are willing to run tennis coaching at a cost of £2.75 per session. If you would like to your child to attend please indicate which day would be most suitable for you. Would you support a lunchtime session?

My child _____ would like to take part in tennis coaching and my preferred day would be _____. I would like my child to attend lunchtime tennis coaching. YES/NO

Signed: