

APRIL 2008 NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Spring Holiday. It was a pleasure to see so many parents at the Open Event on Wednesday 2nd April. Our visitors were very impressed, especially by the children's enthusiasm for their learning. I would like to say a big thank-you to staff, governors, children and parents for making the event so successful.

Photographs



The school has some lovely photographs which celebrate the children's learning. We would like to use the photographs on our school website. Individual children are, of course, not named. The local newspaper also often sends photographers to our school events, and some DVDs are also being produced. Please let the school office know if you do not wish your child's image to appear in any of our publicity material.

F.O.P.S.

Many thanks to all the families who joined us on Saturday 26th April for our School Grounds Day. We had a very busy day weeding, gardening and sweeping up the pine needles. We were very grateful for the special help we had in cleaning up the playgrounds and roadways! Jo Rackley-Hayes and the F.O.P.S. team are now busy preparing this term's events.

Please make sure that you have the date of the Summer Fair in your diaries:

SATURDAY 5TH JULY 2008

F.O.P.S. always welcomes new volunteers. Please contact Jo Rackley-Hayes through the school office.



School Site

The Site Controller, Mr Roy Ledger, and our parent volunteers are taking good care of the school grounds. We would appreciate your co-operation in supervising your children before and after school. Please ensure that children do not climb fences and do not use the adventure playgrounds. Foundation Stage staff have also requested that children do not use the equipment which has been set out in preparation for the morning session.

Coffee Mornings / Health Drop-In



Please do join us for tea and coffee in the Community Room of the Lower Building on Tuesdays in term time between 8:50am and 9:50am. The School Nurse, Family Worker and Children's Information Centre Manager will be on hand to answer questions, and it gives you a great opportunity to meet other parents.

Koosa Kids After School Club

There is now a free daily after school pick-up service from The Pines School to the Area After School Club, which is based at Birch Hill School. The After School Club is open from the finish of school until 6p.m. If you would like to book a place for your child, please contact Koosa Kids:

Email: www.koosakids.co.uk

Telephone: 0845 094 2322

Before School Family Reading Club

Just a reminder that the Family Reading Club runs every morning between 8:20am and 8:50am in the Study Centre.

As previously, parents who use the early morning reading club to hear their children read will be responsible for the supervision of their own children. They will not be supervised by a member of staff. Only children accompanied by a parent are allowed to use the club. The club provides a lovely opportunity for parents to read with their children.



Please note that our Study Centre is the modular building on the large playground

Kick Start



Please note that from now on there will be no before school Kick Start for Key Stage two children on Mondays and Wednesdays

Sainsbury & Tesco Vouchers



Many thanks for all those who have brought in vouchers, please do continue to do so. The children are able to make great use of all the equipment provided by these vouchers.

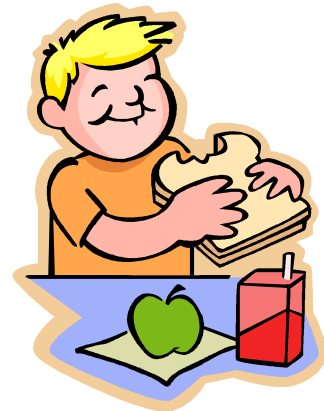


Lunchtimes

At Present:

Foundation Stage & Key Stage One (Years 1 & 2)
Lunch 12:00pm - 1:00pm

Key Stage Two (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6)
Lunch 12:30pm - 1:30pm



From week commencing Monday 19th May, we are going to have the Key Stage Two lunch between 12:00pm and 1:00pm so that lunchtime for all children will be the same.

This will be for a temporary trial period to look at the advantages of the whole school having the same lunchtime, one of which will be running of lunchtime clubs.

On Friday 23rd May any Year Two children interested in joining the lunchtime Judo Club will be invited to a 'taster' session.

Governors will be consulting with parents, children and staff before the change is made permanent.

Part-time Nursery children who do not stay for lunch will continue to be collected at 11:50am.

Winning House - Congratulations Rubies



Well done to the children in Rubies House for winning the House Competition at the end of the Spring Term

Special Cards

The children have been told not to bring Pokemon and other such cards to school. It causes great distress when cards are lost or damaged.

Dates for your diary

12th May 2008 - 16th May 2008

Year Six SATS week

19th May 2008 - 23rd May 2008

Walk to School Week



We will soon be letting you have the dates for Sports Day and the Family Picnic which we will be holding towards the end of the Summer Term.

Yours sincerely,
Kathleen Nugent