

## Contact:

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### ***Special Events and Dates:***

#### INSET Days:

- Monday 13th June 2011
- Friday 22nd July 2011

#### **Tuesday 12th April—**

Choir out at HV Music Festival

#### **Friday 15th April—**

- Easter Lunch
- Non uniform day
- School closes for Easter Holidays

#### **Tuesday 3rd May—**

School re-opens for Summer 5

#### **SATs week—**

Mon 9th May—Fri 13 May

#### **Thursday 19 May—**

6 a-side Football - TBC

#### **Wednesday 25th May—**

Bags to School Collection

#### **Friday 27th May—**

School Closes for Half Term

#### **Monday 6th June—**

School re-opens for Summer 6

Please check subsequent Newsletters for any changes to the Diary Dates.



# Grindleford Primary School Newsletter

13 April 2011

## Spring Term 3



What a busy term we have just had! I can't believe that it has taken me so long to write this newsletter with so much going on!

### Thank you!

Many thanks to everyone who helped organise and run the Grindleford Gallop this year. A massive amount was raised for school which will be used for yet more playground improvements. As you will have seen from the recent letter sent out from our PTA, we are in need of a new Chair person. Maria Clarke has done a superb job and will be willing to help anyone who is interested in taking over. Go on, you know you want to! Please return the form or just come in and see us!

### More Thanks!

A big thank you to all our parents who came to see us during Parent's Evening week. It is very important that we have the chance to talk about your child's progress and happiness. If you didn't make it, then please feel free to pop in and make another appointment. Your next information will be the written report at the end of the summer.

### And some more!

As you may have heard or seen, we have been very busy recently filling our new planters and digging over



our vegetable beds in the garden. Thank you so much for all the kind donations of seeds, plants and especially the soil.

We have used a huge amount to fill our tubs and couldn't have done it without your help and support. Hopefully we will manage to get some healthy crops to pay you back with later in the summer. We are still in need of compost, so if you have any spare it would be gratefully received! If anyone fancies watering the plants during the Easter Holidays that would be very nice as well. We have planters on the yard and vegetable beds in the garden area.



### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS

Further to the last newsletter, we are still awaiting a quote for resurfacing our top playground. We are also looking at new lighting for the whole of the 'old building' and new toilets! After all this work, we will hopefully be decorating through the 'old building' to finish off.



After budget setting time, we will be looking at buying the climbing wall for the bottom playground (thank you PTA!), alongside our new goalposts this area would then be finished!

### Extra INSET Day!

Due to the Royal Wedding being in the Easter Holidays, we have been given an extra INSET day on the last day of the Summer term. This means that school will finish on Thursday 21st July.



The Sir William is hosting a Fun Day and BBQ on the 29th April, 12.00 till 4.00pm. It should be great fun and the raffle is very kindly being donated to school!



### Non-uniform Day—Friday 15th April

The School Council have asked if we may have a non-uniform day this Friday to help raise money for a Vacuum Former Machine. One of the school's ex pupils, David Gill, is raising money to buy one of these machines to donate to a hospital in Dhaka. The School Council thought that this was a very worthy cause and hopefully everyone will join in and donate. We will then try to get David to visit school to talk to the children about his work and how they have helped.

### New Website!

Mr Petts has been working extremely hard on the new school website which looks fantastic! It's not fully finished yet, but is available for perusal. The main body of the website will be as interactive as possible, giving you a forum for comments and a back up for lost letters, newsletters, prospectus or commonly used forms such as holiday request forms.



The most exciting bit (I know, I need to get out more!) is the blogging! All the classes have a blog page that will grow constantly, telling you of the exciting things we are learning about in class. The children love this already! I will also be able to blog news events like 'Stars of the Week' so that you get to see all our celebrations every week.

Please see the attached info leaflet that Mr Petts has put together for you about the website for further details.

### Easter Egg Hunt



We will be doing our traditional Easter Egg Hunt on Friday. This is where the children search the grounds for winning tokens and receive little eggs in return! Yummy!

### Design an Egg Competition!

Our annual competition for the best designed Easter Egg will take place on the first day back after Easter. It is getting eggstremely hard to win these days as the eggxiting ideas are getting better and better each year! Have fun over the holidays designing and the eggs will be judged on Tuesday 3rd May! See the website for more details and previous entries.

### Testing Week

The week beginning 9th May is the official SATs testing week. Please ensure that your child gets plenty of sleep and breakfast! Apparently research has shown that chocolate and bananas can

### **After-School Clubs**

#### **Monday:**

- *Sewing Club* - 3.20 till 4.15pm. All ages welcome. Please see Mrs Parkin for availability of places.

#### **Wednesday:**

- *Choir* - A new school choir is being started! For Year 2 upwards—only people interested in singing to join please. From 3.20 to 4.15pm.

*Any changes to the above information will be sent out either through text alerts or a letter. Thank you.*

help with concentration levels—not sure if this is correct, but I shall be eating chocolate to do my bit! If you would like to do any work at home, please see Mr Petts for ideas, however, a restful holiday will also help.

### Free School Meals—Are you entitled?



To be eligible for free school meals you must be in receipt of Income Support or income based Job-seeker's Allowance, or the guarantee element of State Pension Credit; or Child Tax Credit (with an annual income of less than £14,495). Anybody claiming Working Tax Credit is not eligible.

Under the new funding structure for school budgets, we now get extra money based on our free school meals numbers. If you fit the criteria, please pop in and see us!

### New School Meal Menu

The new Summer Term menu has just gone out and doesn't mention jacket potatoes and sandwiches. These items will still be available to any dinner children who would like to have them, as Emma has very kindly agreed to keep making them.



### CHESS COMPETITION!



The chess competition is hotting up and the children are really enjoying it! Thank you for your encouragement and support. It has been a very closely contested competition, with the final playoffs happening very soon! On some of the scores the children have been getting we may even see some of our children in the regional matches! Watch this space and obviously the website for hot off the press information!!!!