

## Contact:

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## Special Events and Dates:

### INSET Days:

- Friday 1st June 2012
- Friday 22nd June 2012

### Wednesday 11th January—

- PTA Meeting, 7.30pm at the Sir William

### Friday 20th January—

- Cross Country running at HVC—TBC

### Wednesday 25th January—

- First Aid Training for the Children—Class 2 AM, Class 1 PM

### Thursday 26th January—

- First Aid Training for the Children—Class 3

### Friday 27th January—

- Parent Governor Nomination Forms to go out

### Friday 10th February—

- School closes for Half Term

### Monday 20th February—

- School Opens again for Spring 4

### Week beginning 27th February—

- Parent's Evenings

### Saturday 10th March—

- GALLOP Day

### Wednesday 21st March to Friday 23rd March—

- Class 3 Residential trip to Whitehall

### Tuesday 27th March to Wednesday 28th March—

- Class 2 Residential trip to Castleton - TBC

### Wednesday 28th March—

- PTA Meeting, 7.30pm at the Sir William

### Friday 30th March—

- Easter Egg Competition



# Grindleford Primary School Newsletter

10 January 2012

## Spring Term 3



Welcome back to our third term of the school year. I hope you all had a happy Christmas and New Year break, it feels so far away now! Thank you so much to everyone who sent best wishes and gifts to school before Christmas, they were much appreciated.

As you can see from the diary dates list, this is due to be another busy term. There are lots of exciting events happening for the children and yourselves, so please keep the dates safe!

### THANK YOU!

Thank you so much to St Helen's Church and Rev Katie for allowing us to finish the term on such a lovely note, with the Nativity and Carol Concert being held in the Church. It really made both events quite special.



A special thank you should also go to The Maynard for inviting the whole school for another excellent day of making Christmas Puddings. The children were all extremely well behaved and lunch was very nice!



A Governor Message—COULD YOU BECOME A PARENT GOVERNOR?

There will be two Parent Governor vacancies on the Governing body at school this term.

If you are interested in becoming a Parent Governor please read on!

For an informal discussion and further information please contact Nicola Platts (Clerk to the Governors) via the school,

or contact Nicky Luscombe. You can also learn more at [www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education) in the School Governor section.

If you would like to proceed please complete the nomination form which will be sent to all parents via the children's book bags on the 27th of January. Nomination forms for parents of children who are absent that day will be sent by post to their home address.

Enclosed with the nomination form will be information regarding eligibility for appointment and the process for nominations and subsequent elections if necessary.

### SO...COULD YOU BECOME A PARENT GOVERNOR?

A Parent Governor believes parents should have a say in matters affecting their children's education and has:

- An Interest in all the children's future
- A desire to make a difference
- A willingness to accept responsibility
- An ability to work in a team and is happy to ask questions, listen and learn

### **and should:**

- Visit and get to know the school and the people in it
- Work in partnership with the Head-teacher to raise standards

**A Parent Governor is a representative not a parent delegate. A Parent Governor does not have to vote in a particular way because they have been asked to do so by parents. Parent Governors represent and are elected by other parents.**



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

*Continued:*

### **Friday 30th March—**

- School Closes for Easter Holidays

### **Monday 16th April—**

- School opens for Summer 5

### **Monday 7th May—**

- School Closed for May Day Bank Holiday

### **Wednesday 9th May—**

- PTA Meeting, 7.30pm, at the Sir William

### **Week of 14th May—**

- SATs Testing week

### **Thursday 31st May—**

- School Closes for Half Term

### **Friday 1st June—**

- INSET DAY

### **Monday 11th June—**

- School opens for Summer 6

### **Wednesday 13th June—**

- KS2 to Institute of Sport

### **Friday 22nd June—**

- INSET DAY

### **Wednesday 27th June—**

- PTA meeting, 7.30pm at the Sir William

### **Friday 13th July—**

- Year 6 Leaver's Meal—TBC

### **Monday 16th July—**

- KS2 Production—TBC

### **Tuesday 17th July—**

- KS2 Production—TBC

### **Friday 20th July—**

- Whole School Sports Afternoon—TBC

### **Friday 20th July—**

- School Closes for Summer Holidays

## **SO....COULD YOU BECOME A PARENT GOVERNOR? - Continued**

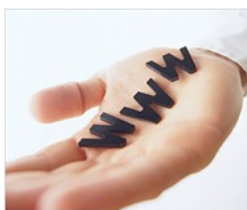
### **Parent Governors:**

- Help to decide the priorities for improving the school
- Will listen as well as they can to parents' opinions and take account of them as they contribute to Governors' decisions
- Work co-operatively with other Governors in the best interest of the school
- Attend the meetings of the Governing Body and its Committees
- Promote the interest of the school in the wider community
- Have an equal right to participate and to state their views whilst representing the views of others
- Are loyal to the decisions made by the Governing Body
- Respect the confidentiality of those items of business that have been designated as confidential and do not disclose what individuals have said or how they have voted
- Withdraw from a decision from which he or she or a partner or close relative stands to gain or where he or she is too involved to be objective
- Have regard to the broader responsibilities as a Governor of a public institution in regard to promoting a public accountability for the actions and performance of the Governing Body
- Participate in training.

**If you are still interested, please see Nicola Platts or Nicky Luscome for more information or fill in the nomination form on the 27th January.**

Thank you!

**[WWW.grindlefordprimaryschool.co.uk](http://WWW.grindlefordprimaryschool.co.uk)**



As you all know our school website is now up and running and being developed and tweaked all the time. Our next mission is to put all our school policies live on the site. This is being done as a rolling programme as the policies come up for review—so please bear with us. As always copies of policies can always be obtained from Mrs Callis or myself in paper form.

If you click on the 'Office' button you will find a lot of general forms are available for download from the site e.g. medical forms, trip consent forms, plus archived newsletters and information on 'Infection Controls in Schools' which gives advice on how long to keep your child off school for if they are sick etc.

Each class also has a 'blog' page where lots of information and pictures can be found regarding the work that is being completed within the classrooms.

Every Friday we hold our Awards Ceremony and celebrate good news from home and school. This information is then published on the website for you to see.

If you would like anything adding to the website to ease communication or have any comments on it then please either pop in and see me or speak to Mr Petts.



## After-School Clubs

### Monday:

- *Running Club* - 3.20 till 4.00pm. LAST SESSION: 16th January, with the Cross Country Competition taking place at Hope Valley College on the 20th January—See Mrs Parkin for more information.
- *Dance Club* - 3.20 till 4.15pm. For Reception and Year 1. FIRST SESSION: 23rd January. For more information please see Mrs Parkin.
- *Gymnastics Club* - 3.30 till 4.30pm. For KS2 children to begin with. This club will be run by High Peak Gymnastics Club and therefore will have a cost attached and be limited to 15 places. FIRST SESSION: 16th January. See Mrs Callis for further information.

### Wednesday:

- *Film Club*— 3.20 until the film ends! For Year 3 upwards please, and only children that have the interest to watch a film right the way through without getting bored. Mr Petts will text information about the films each week, including the finishing times. See Mr Petts for more information. FIRST SESSION: 18 January.
- *Creative Club*— 3.20 till 4.15pm. Open to all ages, but limited to 15 places. FIRST SESSION: 18 January. Please see Miss Siddall for more information.

### Thursday:

- *Netball*—3.20 till 4.15pm. For Year 3 upwards please. See Miss Siddall for more information.

*Any changes to the above information will be sent out either through text alerts or a letter. As always a big thank you must go to the staff who run these clubs in their own free time. The above clubs will run at least until half term; different clubs will run throughout the year.*

*Thank you.*

## French Teaching



Since October half term we have been welcoming Madame Bailly into school on a Friday afternoon to teach French to Class 2 and Class 3. Madame Bailly is also employed as a Modern Foreign Language teacher at Lady Manners School, so provides a nice transition with what is required at Secondary School. These lessons provide a different type of teaching to the lunchtime sessions that have happened for a while with Dominique and are conducted almost entirely in French. Lessons follow the Derbyshire approved scheme created by Catherine Cheater, which Madame Bailly then differentiates and develops.

## Secret Santa!



A massive 'thank you' must go to two of our PTA members, Sophie Hunter and Beth Marshall, for organising a new Christmas event for the children. It was absolutely lovely to see the children getting so excited about buying a gift that nobody at home had any hand in choosing and was therefore purely from them. Thank you to all our parents who donated presents—the quality of the gifts was very high! Due to the demand for gifts being higher than the donations, the PTA had to subsidize the event by buying extra presents, therefore the event broke even. However, the children literally skipped down the corridors with their wrapped up purchases smiling for all the world to see, which for me made the event extremely successful. If you have got any gifts that you would like to recycle or donate ready for next year (or raffle/tombola prizes throughout the year) then please feel free to bring them into the front office where a box will be waiting. [The next PTA meeting is tomorrow night, 11th January, at 7.30pm in the Sir William.](#) [Everyone is, as always, extremely welcome to come along.](#)





## CHESS COMPETITION!



Yes, it's back! Due to the very popular and extremely well fought Chess Tournament last year, we have decided to enter it again this year. The school-based tournament will take place over the next few weeks and those taking part will be playing for the title of School Champion 2012. Depending on their final score, they may have the opportunity to take part in a regional tournament against children from other schools. There are lots of rubbers, mascots and badges to be won for all who take part. If your child is interested then they need to see Mr Petts to register an interest. The games are self-managed so it is important that your child understands the basics of chess in order to take part. Last time we played Grace Gilbert, Ellie Marshall, Joe Birch-Healey and Benny Crowson all got through to the Mega Final (regional tournament), with Benny and Joe progressing on to the Giga Final (national). So..... The questions this year are..... Can anyone beat Benny Crowson and how far can he go? Game on!

## School Dinners

Once again, a massive thank you must go to our Cook, Emma, on producing such delicious hot meals for the children and staff every day, culminating in a superb Christmas Dinner at the end of term. As usual, we require two weeks written notice of changes from sandwiches to dinners and vice versa due to the ordering process within Derbyshire County Council's Catering Service.



### The Catering Service has asked me to bring the following to your attention:

1. You may have noticed the school meal menu now includes many new dishes. The Catering Service are always grateful to receive any feedback you may have regarding the meals. Please email [catering@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:catering@derbyshire.gov.uk) or telephone 01629 536704 to discuss any area of the school meal service.
2. Free School Meals  
Parent/carers may be eligible to claim free school meals. It's easy to apply; ask at your school and they will provide you with an application form to complete or contact the Catering Service by email [catering@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:catering@derbyshire.gov.uk) or telephone 01629 536704 and they will send you an application form. On return of the completed form we (Catering Service) will contact you to advise on eligibility.
3. Derbyshire County Council Catering Service are currently recruiting for Relief General Kitchen Assistants to work at various locations and within term time. For more information please contact Catering Admin Office on 01629 536704 or speak to the Catering Unit Supervisor in your school (Emma). For an application pack please contact Call Centre on 08456 058058 and quote the following reference: DCC/11/0084.
4. Please visit Catering's interactive website at [www.myschoollunch.co.uk/derbyshire](http://www.myschoollunch.co.uk/derbyshire)
5. Finally, as from 1st March 2012 CAYA Catering Service will no longer be facilitating the provision of Nursery or Primary Pupil Drinking Milk. Milk will no longer be served as part of the primary school meal and has been removed from the printed menu leaflet.

## Winter Clothing

As the weather is still quite inclement the children will need to bring in a suitably warm and waterproof coat. We try to let the children get lots of fresh air so we do all go outside in drizzle and light rain.



During the Spring months we will be using the Trim Trail at any opportunity that we can, so please remember children need sensible shoes to be safe on the equipment. In wet weather they will still require Wellingtons. As always please make sure all items of clothing are named!

## Headlice

As with any environment filled with children, head lice are a potential visitor. To help keep these unwanted pests at bay please do regular checks of your child's scalp. If found treat immediately to prevent their spread. There is a wealth of advice online: the NHS Choices pages are particularly useful.

<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

We ask that any long hair is tied up to help prevent their spread.

