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Grindleford Primary School Newsletter

11 November 2010

Autumn Term 2



Special events and dates:

INSET DAYS:

- Tuesday 4th January 2011
- Friday 18 February 2011
- Monday 13th June 2011

Friday 12 November—Music Assembly, parents welcome

Tuesday 16 November—Christmas puddings at the Maynard

Friday 19 November—Children In Need day—details to be sent out by School Council

Friday 19 November—Music Assembly, parents welcome

Friday 19 November—Cross Country at HVC, selected children to take part, pm

Monday 22 November—5-aside football at HVC, selected children to take part, pm

Wednesday 24 November—Bags2School collection am

Thursday 25 November—Christmas Bazaar at the Maynard, 6-9.30pm

Thursday 2nd December—Young Voices (Class 3)

Tuesday 7th December - FS and KS1 Christmas Production—St Helen's Church, times to follow

Wednesday 8 December—New Reception starters to visit

Friday 10 December—Pantomime at Pomegranate in Chesterfield, pm

Wednesday 15 December—School Christmas Lunch

Thursday 16 December—Class 3 to Kelham Island

Friday 17 December—Class 1 to Barnaby Bear

Tuesday 21 December—Carol Concert and music at St.Helen's Church, 9.30

Tuesday 21st December—School breaks up for Christmas Break

Christmas Break—Wednesday 22nd December to Tuesday 4th January—INSET.

Wednesday 5 January—Children back in school

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

Welcome back to our second term of the year. Thank you so much to everyone who has turned out in the cold and miserable weather to see us for Parent's Evening. It is always lovely to see you all.

As you can see from the diary dates list, this is due to be a very 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 for your generous gifts during our Harvest Festival.

The produce was all donated to Moorland House in Hathersage and was greatly received. A group of our children helped deliver the food so that the residents all knew where it had come from. Many thanks go to Rev Gilbert for organizing our festival.

CAN YOU HELP?

As you know from the flyers around the village and our text message service we are currently looking for a new Clerk to Governors. This is a paid post and would suit someone who can give up a maximum of 6 Tuesday evenings across the year, plus take minutes and file them within school. The Clerk would need to work closely with Mrs Hill and our Chair of Governors, Mrs Nicky Luscombe and also be willing to have relevant training and update themselves with current governor matters. If you are interested or would like further information, just pop in and see us!



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS

We are currently attaining quotes to resurface the play ground. When we have got them all we shall move forward with surfacing and putting more equipment in for the children to use.

We have just ordered new benches and seating for the quiet garden and the yard, plus new garden planters for the EYFS outdoor area and the main playground.

Class 2 and Class 3 are now working at their brand new tables, with new chairs for everyone arriving shortly.

Alongside all of this the children will soon be benefitting from lots of new PE equipment and science equipment.

What an exciting time!



SCHOOL DINNERS

Following circulation of the school menu for November 2010 to April 2011 the Catering Service are always grateful for any feedback you may have on the school meal service.

Please use the contact details on the outside cover of the menu and remember to visit www.Myschoollunch.co.uk/Derbyshire where you will find the current menu, further nutritional information, games and competitions.

A big thank you must go to our school cook Emma, who has put on some really lovely lunches that sandwich children enjoyed as well. Look at for further opportunities to have a 'try-again' or themed lunch.



ADOPTION—HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT IT?

We have received in school a very useful document for any parents who are thinking about whether adoption is for them or not. It is called a 'Guide to Adoption—information for people wishing to adopt'. Please pop in and get a copy if you would like to look into this very rewarding area further or contact Derbyshire Adoption Support Team on 01629 53 2271 or email centraladoption-team@derbyshire.gov.uk

Information/Items for Mrs Callis



To save your legs we will now have a box in the porch area into which you may put information or items for Mrs Callis. This will be emptied daily and will hopefully ease the bottleneck at Mrs Callis' new office in a morning.

Christmas Lunch



As you can see from our diary dates, Christmas lunch will be on Wednesday 15 December. If you would like your child to have Christmas Lunch then please let Tracey know before the end of November so that the correct amounts of food may be ordered.



Free School Meals—Are you entitled?

To be eligible for free school meals you must be in receipt of Income Support or income based Jobseeker'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.

Winter Clothing

As the weather gets colder and a little more 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 Autumn months we will still 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!

Application for Reception Places

The application window for Reception places will be open from November 15 2010 until midnight on 15 January 2011. Any child born between 1 September 2006 and 31 August 2007 will need to apply. From September 2011, there will only be one Reception intake, starting in September. Parents can apply online or by phone by ringing Call Derbyshire on 08456 058 058. A guidance leaflet will be available online from the 15 November 2010. A few hard copies will be sent into school during the week of the 15 November if you would like one.

After-School Clubs

Monday:

- *Class 3 Choir* - Open to all of Class 3 in preparation for Young Voices. From 3.20 until 4.15pm. (FilmClub will return in 2011).

Thursday:

- *Sewing club* - There are 20 places available on a first come, first served basis. All ages welcome.. From 3.20 to 4.15pm.. Starting on the 30th September 2010.
- *KS1 Club*—Lots of different activities for anyone in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2. From 3.20 to 4.15. Starting on the 22nd September 2010.

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

Website Information



There have been a few enquiries to school concerning our web presence and I would like to give you an update on where we are. Our current website is maintained on a hosting service that we cannot access from the internal Derbyshire network due to the nature of other sites maintained on the same servers; it is on the web sweeper's blocked list. We have been looking at migrating our presence to a host maintained by Derbyshire services to avoid this and related issues for a while now.

As part of the development of the Kaleidos learning platform from 2009, there was an intention for a public-facing element to the system that would allow us to easily produce a web site that would closely link to the internal systems we already have in school. However, this element of the implementation has been delayed, and this only became apparent in the last term. As a result, the plans we were waiting to action following this change were no longer valid.

We have received notification from EMBC (*the company that provide the networking services for Derbyshire County Council*) that they are performing a mass migration/upgrade to their web servers in November/December. This includes the domain reserved for us of grindleford.derbshire.sch.uk. We have obtained all the required access details and are awaiting notification of the migration so that we can use the new interface and tools that will become available through the upgrade.

The intention is to build up a significant presence with the interests of parents and people interested in knowing more about our school. With the ability to update internally on-site, we are hopeful that a more dynamic portal of communication will evolve to suit those who prefer news and information delivered electronically. We will of course continue with the paper-based newsletter to suit those who tell us they like the more traditional methods.

Richard Petts