

Ringshall School

Newsletter February 2010

Dear Parents & Carers

We have come to the end of the first half term of 2010 and the time seems to be flying by. I am really enjoying teaching Willow class; it is lovely to be working with the children. Next half term my class will be re-launching the Friday morning coffee morning/drop in as part of their learning, it would be lovely to see more parents using this opportunity to meet us and have a chat.

We have had a few tummy bugs in school this half term. The advice we are given is that children should not return to school until they have been clear of symptoms for 48 hours. This may seem an incredibly long time but it is necessary to prevent the spread of infection. Of course children can be sick for many reasons- too much ice cream, over excitement and anxiety are just a few, but if you suspect they might have a tummy bug we do ask you to keep to the medical advice we have been given.

Next half term promises to be an exciting one as we begin the preparations for Eddie the Penguin Saves the World. The choir are already learning the songs. It promises to be a really good production. We look forward to seeing you at one of the performances.

We have an increasing number of unclaimed items of clothing. As many of them are unnamed it is difficult to return them to their owner. Could you please make sure that your child's clothing is named. We now have a lost property box in the

Our whole school focus next

term will be: **Respect**

Dates for the Diary

15th - 19th February

Half term

Fri 26th Feb

Re-launch of Coffee Morning Drop in
Sat 27th March 7pm

PFRS Race night in Ringshall Village Hall

Thursday 11th March

Mother's Day Lunch

Sunday 21st March

Sports Relief Dog Walk

Wed 24th March

Time to share (Literacy Focus)

9.30 - 10.30 & 3.15 - 4.30

Tues 30th March

Eddie the Penguin saves the world!

A whole school musical

School Nurse drop in dates in March:

1st Creeting St Mary & Chilton

2nd Combsford

5th Great Finborough

8th Haughley

19th Old Newton

9th Freemans

26th Cedars

12th Mendlesham

15th Wood Ley & Ringshall

Haiti Appeal



At the end of January we saw for ourselves that Ringshall has indeed got talent when many of the children performed their acts in front of the whole school and families and friends. These included breakdancers, singers, stand up comedians, magicians, speed stackers, gymnasts, Taekwondo practitioners and story tellers. Thanks to the generous support of the audience and the lunchtime activities that Rowan Class had held earlier on in the week, we were able to donate nearly £110 to the Haiti Appeal. Thank you for all your support.



Congratulations to Jayne Sewell and her team who have achieved a 5 star award (the highest possible) for standards of cleanliness in the kitchen. This was despite the fact that the environmental health officer turned up unannounced on the busiest day of the year - Christmas Dinner Day! Well done Jayne!



Mother's Day Lunch

On Thursday 11th March we would like to invite mums/primary carers to join us for our Mother's Day Lunch. If mums cannot attend then grandmothers are welcome but due to the size of the hall places are limited to 1 adult per child. The cost will be £2 for the children and £2.96 for mums. Please let the office know by 2nd March. Menu to follow.



Friday Drop in & Coffee Morning

Willow Class will re-launch this for us on Friday 26th February. The following Friday, 5th March, Mrs Wilcox will be at the drop in to chat to any parents/carers who haven't had a chance to meet her yet.

THE HEADLICE ARE STILL WINNING!

In the last newsletter we asked you to check your child's hair regularly for headlice and to treat it immediately if any are found. Unfortunately it still remains a problem so **please** could you keep checking and treating.

End of Day Arrangements If your child goes home on the bus and you have to arrange for someone different to collect them please could you let your Welfare Officer know and not the School Office. For children who are collected from school, if your arrangements change please could you notify the office in writing during the morning. Obviously, in the case of an emergency, then notify as soon as possible. Thank you.



Go the extra mile for Sports Relief and join us on a dog walk (dogs not essential!) on Sunday 21st March. We will meet at the school at 10.30am and walk for about an hour on paths close to the school. All we ask is that you drop a donation in the bucket.

A word from Cherry Class:

We have been learning about the country of Tanzania through the book 'We all went on Safari'. So we all went on an imaginary safari and looked at the different animals and their patterns. We painted our own repeating patterns and made some with shapes and beads. We have even counted to 10 in Swahili! On Friday we are having a day to celebrate Chinese New Year. We will be building the Great Wall of China, making a dragon and painting tigers. After half term we will be continuing with the topic of Africa and looking at houses, clothes, weaving and instruments. We would be grateful for any doll's clothes and also small vehicles for our role play boxes.



Congratulations to Mrs Stravoscoufis who is the proud mum to Evie, born on January 29th. Mother and baby are both doing well.

A word from Willow class:

Willow class have been learning more about Africa. We have been looking at the map of Africa and finding out where different foods come from. We found coffee from Kenya, chillies from Zambia and potatoes from Egypt. We noticed lots of food had a special sign on it which stood for Fair Trade. After half term we will find out more about that. Willow class will also be re-launching the Ringshall Drop in Coffee morning on Friday mornings at 9am as a fair trade coffee morning. They will use this project as part of their maths lessons to learn more about money. They will be writing information leaflets about some of the fair trade items used in the coffee morning.

A word from Saplings:

In Saplings we have had lots of fun this week making some delicious Valentine's biscuits. We made everyone else feel hungry as the smell wafted round the school. Cherry Class invited us to be their audience when they played special music to celebrate Chinese New Year. Next half term we will learn about the people who live in Africa, what their houses are like and the clothes they wear. We will also look at African art and use the ideas in our own art.

A word from Rowan Class:

In Rowan Class, having focused upon the problems people face in Africa this half term, we will be looking at the geography of the country and also some significant people in African history. We will be developing literacy skills using non-fiction texts, both reading them and writing our own. We will be using dictionaries and encyclopaedias. Towards the end of the term we will deviate from the topic of Africa and will look at issues that arise from our whole school musical 'Eddie the Penguin Saves the World'. In numeracy we will be looking at patterns and relationships with numbers that can help us problem solve, 2D & 3D shape, symmetry and position, direction and movement.

A word from Elm Class:

In Elm class we have looked at mud houses in Africa and have been finding out how they are built. We then compared the materials used with our own houses. The children were able to draw a detailed picture of their house using photographs brought in from home. Children then had fun using paint, tissue paper or crayons to decorate their house and think about the texture. We have also opened up a travel agent. If you have any spare holiday brochures, maps, money, travelling tickets etc, they'd be appreciated.