



5th March 2010

Dear parents,

I trust that the half term break went well and that you are beginning to enjoy the lighter mornings and even some sunshine?

This is a busy half term with lots of activities going on, one or two of which have changed slightly.

- **The Holiday Club** during half term was very successful; my thanks go to Mr Shone and his team.
Bookings are now being taken for the Easter break. Please contact Mr Shone on 01782 641212 or e-mail infor@handforddaynursery.co.uk
- **The school website** is now up-to-date thanks to the efforts of Mr Hood and Mrs Tierney. We have now set up a weekly newsletter or Heads Blog – so you can stay in touch with our weekly events.
- **Texting Service** - We are currently putting into place a “Parent Mail” whereby we can text message you if events during the school day change. I will contact you when this is in place.
- **Parents Evenings** – We are trialling a slightly different system for these parents evenings whereby parents from P3 upwards will meet with both Maths and Literacy Co-ordinator simultaneously i.e. P3 will see Mr Hood and Mrs Moore. Should you want to meet with any other member of staff we will make a separate appointment.
Early Years and Key Stage 1 Parents will meet their child’s class teacher who will give an overall picture of progress; any specific concerns can be addressed if necessary at a follow-up appointment.
Prep 5 & Prep 6 Parents Evening – Monday 22nd March
Nursery to Prep 4 Parents Evening - Tuesday 23rd March
- **P.T.A.** We are very grateful for the school Mini Bus which has been a great asset to the school. We are also very grateful for the Interactive White Boards which are now installed and are to be purchased. An enormous thank you to Mrs Trevor and her band of stalwarts.
Please do support the P.T.A. the next meeting is on **Monday 8th March at 7.30pm** at the Trentham Hotel. Preparations are now well underway for the Masquerade Ball on Saturday 20th March; there are still some tickets available. This annual event is usually very enjoyable whilst raising funds for the school.
If you are able to offer your time to help Mrs Trevor with the preparations I would be exceptionally grateful.
- **Non Uniform Day is Wednesday 31st March** not as stated in my last letter of 30th April (this is a day in lieu of Speech Day).
- **Christingle** Thank you for your contribution to our Christingle Collection, for those working with children on the margins of society – we raised £259.14!
- **Reports** Thank you to all those who have responded positively with regard to having their child’s report e-mailed. Please be patient with us as we are trialling this system in an effort to be more sustainable and save paper. Paper copies are still available to those who require them.
- **Supermarket Vouchers - Sports for Schools / Computer Equipment**
Sainsbury’s and Tesco are now offering their school vouchers to customers we would be very grateful if you and your family and friends could collect them for us by sending them into school with your child. Over the past years we have

managed to obtain some great educational recourses. Thanking you in anticipation!

- ❑ **Extra Curricular Clubs** Due to our new security gates parents are only able to access school via the side gate on Rookery Lane. Could all parents collecting children from clubs please wait on the Nursery playground where staff will bring your children to dismiss them.
Joe's Club Please continue to come round to the front door (Reception area) where a staff member will be inside to open the front door.
- ❑ **Lollipop Crossing Patrol Person** – URGENTLY REQUIRED! DO YOU KNOW ANY SUITABLE PERSON? If so please contact me.
- ❑ **Mothers Day** Nursery and Reception Mothers Day Assembly will be held on **Friday 12th March at 9.15am** in the school hall. You are most welcome to attend. PP1 & PP2 Mothers Day Assembly will be held on **Friday 12th March at 2.30pm** in the school hall, again you are very welcome to attend.
- ❑ **Lenten Activities** Thank you for your generosity and support. All the children love taking part in these activities.
- ❑ **Pre Prep Lenten Activities** The Pre Prep will hold a toy stall on 24th March during break time, please send in any toys which are in good condition but no longer played with for the Pre Prep to sell. The main thrust of the Pre Prep fund raising will take place in the summer term on Friday 18th June when all the school will take part in a sponsored event “Jump Rope for Heart” – hopefully by then we will have some decent weather.
- ❑ **P.S.H.C.E. Week** commences on Monday 22nd March, all classes are off timetable to concentrate on this important aspect of the curriculum.
- ❑ **Eco News** We continue to try and switch off lights, stop dripping taps and save paper. **Saturday 27th March is “Earth Hour”** when everyone World Wide is encouraged to “Switch Off” for one hour commencing at 8.30pm. I would encourage you to take part and talk to your children about the effects of climate change for our planet. I shall be having a “Switch Off” hour on Friday 26th March during assembly, and our responsibility to our planet will be my theme. For more information go to www.org.uk/earthhour
- ❑ **Swimming** The last swim for this term is Thursday 25th March. Swimming on the 18th March has been rescheduled to take place 1.20pm to 1.50pm.
- ❑ **Sponsored Spell 25th March** – you should have already received the details for this event. Please speak to the class teacher if you have not received correspondence.
- ❑ **Jar Tombola 31st March** – details have already been sent out for this too.
- ❑ **Early Years / PP1 / PP2 Easter Bonnet Parade on 31st March** - Please make an Easter Bonnet at home to bring in for our Parade – there will be prizes for the best ones.
- ❑ **School closes at 3.15pm / 3.25pm on Wednesday 31st March, there will be no Joe's Club.**

Yours sincerely

S. D. Hutchinson .

Mrs S. D. Hutchinson
Headteacher BEd

St Joseph's Preparatory School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

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