



June Newsletter 2011

Issue Number 44

Dear Parents,

Although the weather seems to be struggling to make up its mind as to whether Summer is here or not, we are well and truly into the Summer Term, second half with only five weeks remaining before the Summer holidays. As usual there is plenty in the pipeline to keep us occupied so please read this letter carefully and update your diaries so you don't miss anything important.

Here goes...

School Association Summer Fair



In case you have missed the news, despite the best efforts of the School Association to publicise the event, the school Summer Fair is taking place this Saturday, **18th June** from 12.00pm - 3.00pm. There will be a wide variety of stalls, activities, refreshments and challenges for everyone to enjoy. We are now very much hoping that the sun will have made up its mind to shine by the weekend. Special attractions this year include a "Pet's Corner" for small animals (no dogs - further details available at the school office in case you missed this) and "Buskers' Corner" where you will be entertained by a number of different musical acts including a "human duke box", a local "youth" band and "Earlybird" (who is surprisingly familiar). Do come along and support this fun event - bring your flier (sent out earlier) for your free cup of tea.

West Hoathly Pre-school



Members of the school's governing body have arranged to meet with representatives of the pre-school committee in the next few weeks to discuss ways in which we can strengthen our working relationship and provide additional support and collaboration as appropriate. For the avoidance of any rumours this is not a "take-over bid" and there are no plans for the pre-school to move to the school site.

Home Learning



In response to feedback from parents and plans to develop home-school partnership, especially in respect of basic skills we have made a few further changes to our home learning policy as follows:

- Firstly you should now have seen the new pupil day books for pupils in Years 1-6 which combine the reading diary, learning objectives (for the week), a space for communication and for informing parents of the focus of particular aspects of basic skills being covered e.g. times tables, number facts, spelling patterns etc. *These may not all be introduced simultaneously but will all be fully in place for the Autumn Term.*
- Secondly, for children in Dragon, Pegasus and Phoenix classes, you should have received a new, much simpler, home learning grid. We are asking the pupils to complete one larger "project" activity per half term, chosen from three options. These should be brought to school when complete and will be

displayed in the hall corridor and certificates will be issued with feedback on the work.

- You should also have received (or be about to receive in the case of Unicorn Class) a "Punctuation Target Ladder" indicating the particular target that has been set for your child.

We will, over the next few months, be developing a range of resources and information on the school website to help parents support their children in the acquisition of basic skills. This will be done in conjunction with the development of a revised and more detailed "Home School Agreement".

Class Arrangements - Autumn 2011

In the Autumn our classes and year groups will be organised in the same way as they are at present. This is as follows:



Unicorn Class
Foundation Stage
Tracy Swaffer & Lucy Handley
TA: TBC



Dragon Class
Years 1 & 2
Wendy Regan & Pennie Parry
TA: Sarah Skinner



Pegasus Class
Years 3 & 4
Sara Mannion & Kerry Scarratt
TA: Juliet Molloy



Phoenix Class
Years 5 & 6
Judith Smith
TA: Lynda Brand

There are a couple of changes to staffing arrangements. Lucy Handley has been accepted on the Brighton University Graduate Teacher Programme (GTP) and will be working alongside Tracy Swaffer, training to become a qualified teacher at the end of the academic year. To support this

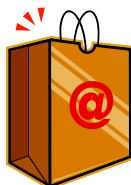
we are currently in negotiation to arrange for some additional teaching assistance in that class.

Sara and Kerry will continue to work in a job share role, which the governors have now agreed to make "permanent". As a slight change to the arrangements they will now be working equal hours i.e. 2.5 days each per week. In practice this will mean that Sara will be teaching every Monday, Tuesday and alternate Wednesday mornings (*with PPA on Wednesday afternoon provided as before by the sports coach and Shirley Hickey (ICT)*). Kerry will work alternate Wednesday mornings, then every Thursday and Friday.

Fund Raising



Bags2 School: Many thanks to everyone who brought in bags of "stuff" for the collection. We have received a cheque for a magnificent £110. A brilliant result! We will be repeating this next year so keep sorting and saving the clothes etc.



Easy Fundraising: Thanks also to those who have signed up to the Easy Fundraising website, nominating WHS to receive money for every purchase made online. This has raised a further £99 for school funds; for the benefit of the children.

If you have not already signed up to this and would be willing to do so then please visit the website: www.easyfundraising.org.uk to sign up - nominating the school as your "cause". Then access all your favourite internet shopping sites via the easy fundraising site and, at no cost to you, the school will receive donations based on everything you spend online.

Tesco & Sainsbury Vouchers



Thank you to everyone who brought in vouchers. They have now been counted, submitted and orders placed. We collected about 7000 Tesco vouchers and around 10000 from Sainsbury. We will be posting details of what we have purchased on the website in the near future.

Dates & Events

Attached to this letter you will find an updated dates list including events between now and the end of term and dates for next year including INSET days. Please take the opportunity to update your calendar.



In particular please note:



The **Tempest Photographer** will be visiting the school for class and team photographs on **Friday 24th June** so please make sure the children are looking "smart".



The next **Parents' Update** meeting, following on from the Forward Together meeting last term, will be held on Thursday 7th July at 7.00pm. The meeting will last an hour. I will send out details nearer the time.



Your child's **Annual Progress Report** will be sent home on **Monday 11th July**.



The next meeting of the **School Association** will be on **Thursday 14th July** at **7.30pm**. It will be held at Standen on the lawns, weather permitting

Advanced notice - the **School Association Annual General Meeting (AGM)** will be held on **Friday 16th September** at **9.00am** in the school studio, following drop-off.



Our annual **Festival of Sport** (Sports Morning) will be held on **Monday 18th July** from 9.00am(ish). Please come along and support your children. If it is wet we have set a reserve date for **Thursday 21st July**.



Our **Junior Production** performances based on scenes from famous Shakespeare plays (with a comical twist) will take place on the evenings of **Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th July** at **7.00pm**. It will involve all the pupils in Pegasus and Phoenix Classes. We will be casting and beginning rehearsals next week.

Summer Holiday



School closes for the Summer holiday on Friday 22nd July - we finish at the usual time of 3.15pm. We re-open on Monday 5th September at 8.45am. Let's hope the Sun gets its act together so we can all spend some time outside, preferably on the beach with a glass of something in hand!

Yours Sincerely,



Adam J. Earle - Headteacher



Dates List

SUMMER TERM 2011

June

- 18 SA Summer Fair
- 20 Pegasus & Phoenix Trip to Hampton Court
- 24 Tempest Photography
- 27 EGGs Creative Performances
- 28 EGGs Creative Performances
- 27-1 "Bikeability" all week - Year 6
- 30 Full Governors' Meeting

July

- 5 Area Sports Event (Selected Pupils TBA)
- 7 Diocesan Leavers' Service @ Worth Abbey
7.00 Parents' Update Meeting
- 8 Unicorn Class visit to Groombridge Place
- 11 Annual Progress Reports home
- 14 Pegasus & Phoenix "Tudor Experience Day"
7.30pm SA Meeting @ Standen
- 15 Schools' Mini "Olympics" (Selected Pupils)
- 18 9.00 Festival of Sport
- 19 19.00 Junior Production
- 20 19.00 Junior Production
- 21 (9.00 Reserve Festival of Sport)
- 22 9.15 Yr 6 Leavers' Service @ Church
15.15 End of Summer Term

ACADEMIC YEAR 2011/12

September

- 2 INSET Day - School Closed
- 5 8.45 Children Return for Autumn Term
- 16 School Association AGM

October

- 14 "Six Weeks In" Event (Reception parents)
- 17-21 Chateau Beaumont (France School Journey)
- 24-28 Half Term Holiday
- 31 INSET Day - School Closed

December

- 16 End of Autumn Term

January

- 3 Spring Term Begins

February

- 10 INSET Day - School Closed
- 13-17 Half Term Holiday

April

- 2-13 Easter Holiday
- 16 INSET Day - School Closed
- 17 Summer Term Begins

May

- 7-11 Year 6 SATs testing (TBC)

June

- 4-8 Half Term Holiday
- 29 End of Summer Term