



September Newsletter 2011

Issue Number 45

Dear Parents,

Welcome and/or welcome back to everyone. They say time flies when you're enjoying yourself, that was certainly true of the Summer holidays! We did see a little sunlight at times although, as I write, looking out of my office window at the gloomy sky and rain I'm not so convinced that this is still, technically, Summer.

We have a great deal to get through over the next few weeks and will be continuing to work on the "Forward Together" project. We have made some changes to the way we work already this year, more of those in a moment. To business...

"Meet the Teacher" Meetings



As part of our agreed measures to further improve parent school partnership we will be holding "Meet the Teacher" meetings after school next week. Although it is short notice we wanted to fit these in as early as possible. The meetings will be held as follows:

Monday 12th September:

3.20pm Phoenix Class
3.50pm Pegasus Class

Tuesday 13th September:

3.20pm Dragon Class
3.50pm Unicorn Class

The aim of the meetings is to share with you some of the key aims and expectations for the year. Please also check your child's class page on the school website (to be updated soon) for further information about this terms learning themes.

Home Learning



Home learning grids, for this term, will be circulated to all children in Dragon, Pegasus and Phoenix Class on Friday this week. We will also get them onto the website, linked to class pages, as soon as possible.

As mentioned in the June newsletter, there will be three activities for each of the half term topics and children will be asked to select and complete one task for each half term. The dates on which these should be "handed in" are:

First Half - Friday 14th October
Second Half - Friday 9th December

Completed work will be included in a display in the hall/kitchen corridor area and each child will receive a certificate giving feedback regarding the work they have done.

In addition please watch out for your child's Day Book in which small activities and the focus for basic skills practise should be recorded.

Target Grids

This terms targets will focus on addition and handwriting and will be circulated to all the children in Dragon, Pegasus and Phoenix Classes on Friday 16th September. There will be a covering booklet to go with the maths.



Shortly we will let you know of the date for the first of our **Maths Information Evenings** which will focus on **addition** this term. The maths curriculum group have prepared the session which they "tested" on the

staff on our INSET day last week. In subsequent terms we will focus on subtraction, multiplication and division in line with the target grids.

As part of our drive to help children improve their presentation and handwriting we have, in line with many other schools, introduced **Pen Licences**. Children will be issued with a pen licence and permitted to write in pen when they have secured a certain standard in the quality of their handwriting. Initially all the children have been asked to write in pencil and we will begin to issue the licences in the very near future. We will of course be providing the children with plenty of support and encouragement to help them achieve the necessary standard.

Rewards & Sanctions



We are currently trialling a slightly different approach to behaviour management which means that “Golden Time” will no longer be part of our reward and sanction system. Classes may still have special times for pupil chosen activities but these will not be linked to behaviour. Instead sanctions will be more immediate and involve loss of play time so that the consequences of any poor behaviour are more closely linked to the event.

We will also be making greater use of our house point system with children earning points for themselves, for which they will be presented with special certificates when they have accrued a certain number of points. The points will also be added to weekly house totals and class totals.

The weekly class totals will be added to an ongoing total which will attract whole class rewards such as additional play time or a special activity afternoon.

Clubs



We are in the process of finalising our clubs list for the term. We will post a full list in due course. Our clubs are mainly for pupils in Key Stage 2 (Yrs 3 - 6) unless otherwise announced. The following list is provisional and may change:

DAY	AM	LUNCH	PM
Monday	Tri-golf (TBC)		Drama (TBC) Bridge (TBC)
Tuesday	Dance Mats (TBC)	Home Learning (AE)	Cheer Leaders (TAS)
Wednesday	Challenge Club (AE)		Football (Coach)
Thursday		WUSU (TAS) Rehearsal	
Friday	Wake Up, Shake Up		Gardening (Afternoon)

Harvest Festival Service



Our annual Harvest Festival service will be held at **9.15am** on **Thursday 29th September** in **St Margaret’s Church**. Our theme this year will be “Celebrating Different Harvests” and each class will lead us in considering the different elements of the harvest. We will send out more details of some other harvest activities nearer the time.

School Association AGM



The School Association AGM will be held on **Friday 16th September** at **9.00am** in the Studio. All parents are invited to join us for this meeting. Coffee and refreshments will be served.

PE Bags



We have, available from the office, a selection of different coloured (bright colours) drawstring type PE bags. They are plain (no logo) but ideal for holding and storing on cloakroom pegs. They are priced £3.50 each. If you would like to buy one for your child, please speak to Mrs Lyford or Mrs Stone.

Easy Fundraising



Thanks again 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.

Dates



A revised dates list is included on the back of this letter, please keep this and add the key dates to your diary.

Wishing you all a successful and happy school year!

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adam Earle". The signature is written over a circular logo that features a stylized white bird or angel figure with wings spread, set against a light blue background.

Adam J. Earle - Headteacher



Dates List

SEPTEMBER

- 9 Home Learning Grids distributed
- 12 15.20 Phoenix - Meet The Teacher
15.50 Pegasus - Meet The Teacher
- 13 15.20 Dragon - Meet The Teacher
15.50 Unicorn - Meet The Teacher
- 15 Dragon visit to Plumpton College
- 16 School Association AGM
Target Ladders distributed
- 27 Pegasus & Phoenix visit to Cuckmere Haven

OCTOBER

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

NOVEMBER

- 1 - 4 Curriculum Theme Week - "Keen to be Green!"
- 8 Parent Consultations 15.30 - 19.00
- 10 Parent Consultations 15.30 - 17.00
- 28 10.15 Advent Assembly (Parents Welcome)

DECEMBER

- 2 School Decoration Day
- 3 School Association Christmas "Event"
- 9 14.30 Pegasus & Phoenix Musical Presentation
- 13 9.15 Infant Nativity (Dress Rehearsal) for school
- 15 9.15 Infant Nativity performance for parents
- 16 14.15 School Christmas Carol Service (St Margaret's)
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

- 14-18 Year 6 SATs testing (*To be confirmed*)

June

- 1 INSET Day – School closed
- 4-8 Half Term Holiday

July

- 20 End of Summer Term