



Beacon Hill Primary School

Beacon Hill Primary School Newsletter November 2011



HASLEMERE TEAM
CONFEDERATION
OF SCHOOLS

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the school, I would like to say thank you to Shelley Stokes and the PTA and the team of parents who organised and ran the Firework Display on Saturday night which was a huge success. The fireworks were fantastic and most of the families leaving afterwards said it was the best display yet. A huge thank you also to Mr Parkes who has been responsible for setting off the fireworks for the past eleven years. We very much appreciate everything he has done over the years to support the school and the PTA. It was his last year this year and his finale was spectacular. Mr Parkes has already trained new PTA members to follow in his footsteps.

Congratulations also to Lauren Edwards from Year 2 and Skye Vidgen from Year 3 who won the Fireworks poster competition and they received prizes of a free family ticket to the fireworks.

The Christmas Fayre is on Saturday 3rd December from 2.00—4.30p.m. Thank you to the parents who have already given their support by offering something, be it a prize for the Silent Auction or volunteering an hour of their time. Please can you volunteer to help run a stall for an hour because many helping hands really does make it easier on the day for the small dedicated group of PTA Committee members who raise so much money for all the children in the school.

We look forward to a very enjoyable half term as we run up to Christmas. Please see the list of events planned.

Best Wishes

Sue Walker

PLEASE COMPLETE A QUESTIONNAIRE TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE SCHOOL

In October 2011, we sent out a questionnaire by Parentmail and we have received 34 replies which have been discussed with the Chair of Governors. Thank you for your replies which are very positive and reflect the way in which the school has changed. Many recognise the progress that has been made in terms of teaching and learning, excellence and enjoyment and attainment for all the children in the school. The SATS results in both KS1 and KS2 show that the more able are achieving very well and are above national average- in KS2 Maths they are 22% above national average. The opportunities to discuss children's learning has been a good feature with children and parents more informed about children's learning, the targets set and the next steps the children need to take to make more progress.

We are sending out a paper copy—one per family. Please can you complete this if you haven't done so and return it to the class teacher tomorrow so we can have more comments and suggestions. If you have already completed a questionnaire, please do not complete another one. Thank you for all your support and if you wish to know anything regarding school or your children's learning please pop in and ask the class teachers or myself.

Open Sessions

The next Open Session will be Monday 5th December. These are held on the first Monday of each month and give you another opportunity to look at your child's work and talk to the teachers between 3.15 - 3.45 p.m.

ENGLISH CURRICULUM EVENING - CHANGE OF DATE

Tuesday 29TH NOVEMBER 2011—6.30 p.m. in the hall

You are warmly invited to a curriculum evening about how we teach reading and writing in the school. It will be led by Mrs Miller who is English Co-ordinator and there will be a presentation about how to support your child's reading at home and also how we assess writing. This will be followed by a question and answer session.

Mufti Day - Friday 18th November

Children may wear their own clothes (something spotty if possible) for a donation of £1 which will be sent to Children in Need. Year 3 children will be selling cakes to raise money too so please look out for their posters.



Reminder about how to contact staff

The Headteacher and teachers are available in the playground on most days.

The school telephone number is 01428 605597 and there is an answering machine.

E-mail - All staff including all teachers can be contacted on info@beacon-hill.surrey.sch.uk. Teachers will receive your message through the school system and contact you.

E-mail - I can be contacted on head@beacon-hill.surrey.sch.uk

SWITCHING ON THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

On Sunday 27th November, the Light Brigade have organised for the village Christmas Lights to be switched on by the youngest member of our school, Olivia MacKenzie. There will be a Christmas market outside the shops from 3.30 p.m. and the lights will be switched on at 4.30 p.m. followed by refreshments and carol singing in the hall.

We hope to see you all in the front playground.

Online Payment

We would like to remind parents that you are now able to pay for school trips online via the Beacon Hill School website (www.beacon-hill.surrey.sch.uk). Before half term, each child was sent home with a letter containing a unique code enabling you to set up an account for your child. If you require another letter, please contact the office. Payment online is preferred, however we are still able to receive cheques made payable to "Beacon Hill School".

REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY—11th November 2011

Year 6 invite you all to a Remembrance Day Assembly on Friday 11th November at 10.20 a.m. in the school hall for a 10.30am start. This will be followed by a short Service conducted by Rev Richard Bodle and The Royal British Legion on the front playground. The flag will be lowered and the Last Post will be played at 11.00 a.m. with a two minute silence.



ADVANCE NOTICE

Monday 14th to Friday 18th May 2012 is Year 6 SATs week and Year 3, 4 and 5 Assessment week. No holidays will be granted at this time. Some Year 6 may also be involved in Level 6 assessments.

GOOD REVISION WEBSITE

The BBC has a very good revision site called BBC KS2 Bitesize Revision. It is easy to use and uses a quiz format and has explanations if children do not understand. The website is www.bbc.co.uk/revisewise

Year 2 children are involved in KS1 tasks throughout April and May 2012.

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

Christmas Fayre -3rd December

The Christmas Fayre is Saturday 3rd December from 2.00pm 4.30p.m.

There are lots of exciting stalls and many fantastic items on the Silent

Auction to be bid for. The Raffle will be drawn at the end of the afternoon and there are many great prizes.



Christmas Play-Puss in Boots

Every child in the school is part of the production and we have included an afternoon performance to enable very young children and babies to attend with their parents. We hope the evening performances can be undisturbed by our younger audience, who can find it difficult to listen quietly.

Tuesday 6th December -2.00p.m.

Tuesday 6th December - 6.30p.m. start.

Wednesday 7th December - 6.30p.m. start.

The play lasts for one hour and we expect to be finished by 7.45p.m. after evening performances. The tickets are free but we do ask for donations (if you wish to give) at the end of each performance and the collection goes to our link school in Kenya to support the children in the village.

Christmas Dinner-Thursday 9th December

Christmas dinner will be served on this day and will be accompanied by Christmas music and the wearing of Christmas hats. All children (including those with packed lunch) will receive a cracker from the PTA which includes a hat but other hats may be worn.

Christmas Parties -12th-15th December

The class teachers are organising class parties for the children and details will be sent home soon. The children will be able to change into their party clothes for an afternoon of activities, games and food.

12th December - Year 2

14th December - Year 3 and Year 4

15th December - Year R and Year 1 at Browns
Year 5 and Year 6

Carol Service-Wednesday 13th December-2.00 p.m.

The Carol Service will take place at St Albans Church on Wednesday 13th December at 2.00 p.m. and our thanks go to Reverend Bodle who will lead the Service. The children from Reception class will be performing The Nativity and there will be readings from some of the older children. All parents are very welcome and children can be collected at the end of the service to be taken home. Please ensure that your child's teacher knows that you have taken them. All remaining children will return to school and can be picked up at school as normal.

End of Term -Tuesday 16th December at 1.00 p.m

**Year 6 Business Project
TOY AND CRAFT FAYRE
SATURDAY 19th NOVEMBER 2011
1-3 p.m.**

Year 6 will be holding various fund raising events this year to help to raise funds for their residential visit in May. The first event is a Toy and Craft Fayre. All profits will go towards the residential. Please come and support this event as there will be lots of cut price toys just in time for Christmas. Refreshments will be available for stall holders and visitors.

You are welcome to book a table to sell your own toys or homemade crafts.

Pay £10 for your table in the hall and keep the profit. Set up from 12 noon

To book your table please send a cheque made payable to Beacon Hill School or £10 cash to Mr Crew in Year 6 who will pass it to the Financial Director, Charles Brayshaw who is in charge of managing the accounts.

Do you have toys and books in pristine condition that you no longer want?

Do you want to clear some space in your bedroom in case Father Christmas brings you new toys or books?

Do you have an older brother/sister who would like to get rid of their younger childhood toys and books? Does your family want to earn some money for Christmas?

Craft tables -Do you make something you wish to sell -cards, jewellery, toys etc

Family Assemblies

There will be Family Assemblies this term. These will start at 9.15 a.m.

Year 2 - Thursday 17th November

Year 6 - **Remembrance Assembly -**

Friday 11th November 10.20am

All parents and family are welcome to visit classrooms after the Assembly.

Christmas Play - Puss in Boots

Auditions have taken place for the main characters in our Christmas Play, Puss in Boots and rehearsals have started. Every child in the school will be part of the production and we have included an afternoon performance to enable very young children and babies to attend with their parents. We hope the evening performances can be undisturbed by our younger audience, who may find it difficult to listen quietly. The two evening performances start at 6.30 p.m and finish around 7.30p.m. so all our Reception children can perform.

Tuesday 6th December at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 6th December at 6.30 p.m.

Wednesday 7th December at 6.30 p.m.

Communication

Class meetings are held each half term to discuss any issues or comments that parents wish to raise. One Governor has a particular link to a class in the school to help parents and staff. They can be contacted through the school office or at these meetings. These will be with the class teacher.

The dates this term are:

Year R (Governor is Richard Bodle) - Thursday 24th November at 2.30pm

Year 1 (Governor is David Cooper) - Friday 25th November at 9.00am

Year 2 (Governor is Jo Taylor) - Friday 25th November at 2.30pm

Year 3 (Governor is Kester Buckland) - Monday 28th November at 9.00am

Year 4 (Governor is Nicky Chubb) - Monday 28th November at 2.30pm

Year 5 (Governor is Peter Garrett) - Tuesday 29th November at 9.00am

Year 6 (Governor is Kris Shipway) - Tuesday 29th November at 2.30pm

Staffing

We will be saying goodbye to Mrs Wilkinson who will be going to New York in January 2012. Our thanks go to her for teaching Year 6 Focus groups this term - she will be missed by the Year 6 children who have received her expertise in Maths and Literacy.

As some of you may be aware, Mrs Miller will be taking maternity leave from the end of February 2012 and she will return in September 2012. We are absolutely delighted for Mrs Miller and her family.

Mrs Pimenta already takes the Year 5 class on Wednesday afternoons and this will continue for the rest of the year. Mrs Huntingford will be joining Beacon Hill Primary School from February 2012 to cover the maternity leave for three days a week- Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Mrs Huntingford joins us from South Farnham School where she has been the Year group leader for Year 5 and she has many years of experience. The remaining one and a half days will be taught by myself.

We look forward to welcoming Mrs Huntingford to our team of teachers in February 2012.

Little Beacons

The children have chosen the name 'Little Beacons' for the Breakfast and After School Care Clubs which are run at the school, and which are enjoyed by all the children who attend. We hope the following information is of interest to you.

Breakfast Club - 7.45am to 8.45am including breakfast is £4.50. A second child in the same family is £3.50.

Breakfast is a choice of cereals, fresh fruit, toast or bread, a variety of jams, fruit juice or milk.

Children who are at the Breakfast Club will be taken to their classrooms when the bell goes at 8.45am.

After School - 3.15pm to 4.20pm includes a snack is £4.50. A second child in the same family is £3.50.

4.20pm to 6pm at a cost of £6.00. A second child in the same family is £4.50.

3.15pm to 6.00pm is £10.50. A second child in the same family is £8.00.

At the end of the day, the club meets in the children's kitchen and the children receive a drink and a sandwich. Children in Reception and Year 1 are accompanied to the main school by staff and brought to the kitchen at 3.15pm. There are many activities available including games, table tennis, cooking, arts and crafts, TV and DVDs and the children play outside on the playground or field, weather permitting.

If you would like your child to attend this club please telephone the office on 01428 605597.

Breakfast Club sessions can be booked up to 6pm on the day before and After School Club sessions can be booked in advance or on the required day.

One of our parents has asked me to draw your attention to an appeal for a friend of hers who is hoping to receive medical treatment in America. Details are on the village noticeboard and donations can be sent to www.teamhannah.com

DATES FOR DIARY

November

Friday 11th	Year 6 Family Assembly - Remembrance Assembly - 10.20am for 10.30am start
Sunday 13th	Remembrance Service at St Albans
Monday 14th	Year 2 trip to Brooklands Museum
Monday 15th	Year R Road Safety visit from Gulidford Flames
Thursday 17th	Year 2 Family Assembly - 9.15am Year 1 trip to Haslemere Museum
Friday 18th	Mufti Day - Children in Need Year 3 cake sale for Children in Need
Tuesday 22nd	Alice in Wonderland - Flying Pizza Theatre Company
Thursday 24th	Year R - Class meeting 2.30pm Year 2 Rugby festival at Woolmer Hill
Friday 25th	Year 1 - Class meeting 9.00am Year 2 - Class meeting 2.30pm
Monday 28th	Year 3 - Class meeting 9.00am Year 4 - Class meeting 2.30pm
Tuesday 29th	Year 5 - Class meeting 9.00am Year 6 - Class meeting 2.30pm

December

Friday 2nd	Mufti Day - Bottle for Christmas Fayre
Saturday 3rd	Christmas Fayre 2.00pm-4.30pm
Tuesday 6th	Christmas Production - 2pm Christmas Production - 6.30pm
Wednesday 7th	Christmas Production - 6.30pm
Friday 9th	Christmas Lunch
Monday 12th	Year 2 Christmas party
Tuesday 13th	Carol Service at St Albans - 2pm
Wednesday 14th	Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas party
Thursday 15th	Year R and Year 1 Christmas party at Brows Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas party
Friday 16th	Term ends at 1pm

Inset Days - School Closed

Monday 19th December 2011

Tuesday 20th December 2011

Friday 1st June 2012

Friday 20th July 2012

Term dates for September 2011/2012

All holidays are expected to be taken in school holiday time

Autumn Term : Tuesday 6th September to Friday 16th December 2011
Spring Term: Wednesday 4th January 2012 to Friday 30th March 2012
Spring Half Term - Monday 13th to Friday 17th February 2012
Summer Term: Monday 16th April to Thursday 19th July 2012
Summer Half Term - Monday 4th June to Friday 8th June 2012