

Badshot Lea Village Infant School

Newsletter Number 1

4th September 2009

Dear Parents,
Welcome Back

Welcome back to school after what I hope has been an enjoyable holiday despite the somewhat mixed weather. It was lovely to meet everyone at the beginning of what promises to be an exciting Autumn Term and hear all the holiday news.

We look forward to lots of exciting activities for children and parents during this term. Regular newsletters will keep you informed of events. Do please remember to look in your child's book bag each day for letters and other important information. For those families that have signed up, this newsletter will be sent, as a trial, by ParentMail. You may therefore receive a hard copy and an electronic version on this occasion. We would really welcome any thoughts or comments on the use of ParentMail following this trial.

Staffing

We welcome Mrs Strachan to our school this term. Mrs Strachan will be teaching Mars Class. When you have the opportunity do please introduce yourself to her. She would be very pleased to meet you. I am sure you would like to join me in wishing Mrs Strachan every success at Badshot Lea Village Infant School.

Some very exciting news - Mrs McMahon is expecting a baby. Mrs McMahon will continue to teach Sky Class until her maternity leave starts at the end of this term.

Organisation for the Autumn Term 2009

A list of classes, teachers and teaching assistants for this term can be found below.

Class Name	Teacher	Teaching Assistant	Year Group
Sky	Mrs Lee Mrs McMahon	Mrs Morris Mrs Cottrell (p/t)	Reception
Mars	Mrs Strachan	Mrs Craven	Younger Year One
Sun	Mrs Mansfield	Mrs West	Older Year One and Younger Year Two
Star	Mrs Fisher	Mrs Cook	Older Year Two
Rainbow	Miss Falconer Mrs Drobig (p/t)	Mrs White Mrs Turner Mrs Kersley Mrs Lall Mrs Cooper (p/t) Mrs Hamilton (p/t)	Reception Year One Year Two
All Classes	Mrs Lever (p/t)	Higher Level Teaching Assistant: Mrs Lawrence	Reception Year One Year Two

Start of the School Day

A reminder that school starts promptly at 9am, when the registers are called. Morning routine is so important to set the tone for the day. Once the inner gate is opened at 8.50am children will go straight into the playground through the gate between Star Class and the car park fence. They will take with them all their belongings - we are making a huge effort to help our children become responsible for their own belongings. Once in the playground you may leave your child, as a member of staff will be on duty. When the children hear the bell they will gather up their belongings and line up ready to walk into school with a member of staff. The children will then put their own belongings away.

If the weather is poor, the children will go straight to the school hall from 8.50am. Fingers crossed for fine weather, so we can all enjoy an early morning play before school starts!

A reminder that a member of staff will have the 'going home / message' book at the inner gate each day for you to pass any 'social calendar' messages on to your child's class teacher. Please do use this facility to make sure we know who your child will be going home with at the end of the school day if it is not yourself or usual child minder.

School Uniform

It was lovely to see everyone in their smart school uniforms on our return from the summer holiday. As the weather is so unpredictable it is extremely important that your child brings a suitable coat to school each day. In addition, your child must have appropriate PE kit (red shorts, white 'T' shirt with the school logo and plimsolls) in school at all times. A reminder that you can purchase school uniform, including PE kit, through the school office. Please ask for a School Uniform Order Form. Uniform will be dispatched via your child as soon as possible after receiving a completed form and full payment.

It would appear that a number of children have had their ears pierced during the summer holiday, so now would be a good time to remind you that for reasons of health and safety children are not allowed to wear any jewellery, including ear-rings, during PE. If your child has pierced ears please ensure they are not wearing ear-rings on PE days. Alternatively, if your child is able to remove and replace ear-rings by themselves, they may do so for PE lessons. However, we cannot accept any responsibility for loss of jewellery if it is worn to school and then removed for PE.

School Dinners

For those children having school dinners they have enjoyed a real treat this week - new plates and bowls, courtesy of our School Council. The new crockery has cartoon fruit and vegetable characters and has been a great hit! Well done to the School Council for selecting our new plates and bowls.

If your child would like to have school dinners do please talk to Mrs Stairs in the school office. Dinner money for the week must be paid in advance each Monday morning. Alternatively you may wish to pay for the half term. Our school dinners are really good, with child friendly healthy options and excellent portions. I would really recommend them to you. At £1.90 each, £9.50 per week, or £70.30 until the October half term they represent great value. Dinner money must be paid in cash or by cheque (made payable to Surrey County Council). Alternatively, if you have access to the Internet you may prefer to pay on-line. Please ask Mrs Stairs in the school office if you would like to use this facility.

Morning Snack

As part of the Government's Healthy Lifestyle Initiative a piece of fresh fruit or vegetable is available for your child to eat each morning at break time. We very much hope you will encourage your child to take full advantage of the free fruit or vegetable each day. If your child brings a snack from home it must be fruit or vegetables - no biscuits or crisps please.

If your child brings a drink from home for morning snack, please ensure it is in a suitable container, with a leak proof lid and that it is clearly named. Children must not bring drinks in glass bottles or containers. We consider healthy drinks or water to be most appropriate. Classroom drinks must be water only please.

Clubs

Clubs will be starting again soon. If your child is in year one or two, and you would like to find out about the range of extra curricular activities, please watch out for further details which will be distributed shortly.

Helpers in School

An important reminder that, should you wish to help in school, in any capacity (including helping in the classroom and going on a school visit) you will need to have successfully completed a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check. If you have not already done so, and you think you may help in the future, it is extremely important that you start the process of CRB clearance as soon as possible. Please contact Mrs Stairs in the school office for more details.

School Book Club

With this newsletter comes the first edition of the School Book Club brochure. For those parents receiving newsletters via ParentMail please check your child's book bag for the brochure.

If you would like to place an order please put your fully completed order form, together with your payment (cheques made payable to The Friends of Badshot Lea Village Infant School please), in a sealed envelope labelled 'Book Club' with your child's name and class clearly on the front. The closing date for orders to be received by the school office is Friday 18th September. Orders will be distributed via your child.

Money in School

As we deal with money for a variety of activities, events and purchases please can we ask that you always place cash and cheques in a clearly labelled envelope with your child's name, class and activity, event or purchase on the front. Thank you.

Dogs

A reminder that for reasons of health and safety dogs, other than helping dogs, are not allowed on the school site.

No Smoking

As with all educational establishments our entire school site is designated No Smoking.

Congratulations!

Well done to everyone who took part in the 'Garden in a Tin' competition at the end of last term. All our entries looked wonderful! I am really pleased to announce that Sorel Watson (now at William Cobbett) won second prize and Madeline Peddle (also now at William Cobbett) won third prize in the competition. Well done to both of you!

Home School Link Worker

Just to remind you that Sue, our Home School Link Worker, is available to support you and your family. She may be contacted through school or by telephone on 07806757587. Sue is keen to hear from any families that would welcome her support and is happy to meet at school or if you prefer at home, or indeed in the community.

Dates for Your Diary

Friday 18 th September	Gardening Afternoon - details already distributed.
Monday 12 th October	We will be taking the children to St Georges Church for Harvest Festival celebrations.
Tuesday 20 th October	The school photographer will be with us - details to follow.
Friday 23 rd October	We finish at 3pm for the half term holiday.
Monday 2 nd November	We return to school for the second half of the Autumn Term.
Thursday 19 th November	Shopping Night kindly arranged by The Friends - details to follow.
Saturday 28 th November	Christmas Fair - please put this date in your diary!
Friday 18 th December	We finish at 3pm for the Christmas Holiday.
Monday 4 th January	We return to school for the start of the Spring Term.
Friday 12 th February	We finish at 3pm for the half term holiday.
Monday 22 nd February	We return to school for the second half of the Spring Term.
Friday 12 th March	We will be <u>closed</u> to children whilst the staff engage in professional development training.
Wednesday 31 st March	We finish at 3pm for the Easter Holiday.
Monday 19 th April	We return to school for the start of the Summer Term.
Monday 3 rd May	We will be <u>closed</u> for the Public Holiday.
Friday 28 th May	We finish for the half term holiday.
Monday 7 th June	We will be <u>closed</u> to children whilst the staff engage in professional development training.
Tuesday 8 th June	The children return to school today for the second half of the Summer Term.
Saturday 26 th June	Farnham Carnival - please put this date in your diary!
Thursday 22 nd July	The children finish at 3pm for the Summer Holiday.
Friday 23 rd July	We will be <u>closed</u> to children whilst the staff engage in professional development training.

Yours sincerely,

Jan Weir
Headteacher