

Badshot Lea Village Infant School

Newsletter Number 20

21st May 2009

Dear Parents,

We are rapidly coming to the end of the first half of the summer term and as yet very little sunshine. Fingers crossed that the sun shines brightly for our half term holiday!

South East in Bloom

Our lovely school grounds will be judged on Thursday 11th June in the South East in Bloom competition. You will already have received information about opportunities to help with preparation of the grounds during our gardening sessions. If you can help, with any aspect of maintaining or preparing the grounds, do please let Mrs Mansfield know. There will be an after school gardening session this Friday, 22nd May, and a morning gardening session during the half term holiday on Thursday 28th May, and of course an opportunity to help during our Inset Day on Monday 1st June. If you are unable to come along to either of these sessions but would like to help do contact Mrs Mansfield to arrange another convenient time. The more help we get, the more we can do in the school grounds.

Sensory Garden

We are delighted that we are going to create a Sensory Garden, just off the path around the field. The three wonderful curved benches, purchased by The Friends and beautifully carved by Mr Fox, will be placed in the Sensory Garden as 'friendship benches'. There will be colourful plants some with glorious scent, and different textures for the children to explore. The delightful pebbles, painted by all the children a couple of weeks ago, will be used in the Sensory Garden. We are very grateful to Mr Stinson (parent of Alex in Mars Class) for all his invaluable help and support in developing our school grounds and of course to everyone who helps maintain and improve our brilliant school grounds to enhance outside learning for all our children.

Scarecrow Competition

Well done to Sorel (in Star Class) for designing such a magnificent scarecrow for the Scarecrow Competition at Birdworld, and to everyone who helped make 'him'. The scarecrow was delivered to Birdworld earlier this week and will be on show for the half term holiday and throughout the summer in the bale maze. Good luck to our scarecrow in the competition!

We have a few 'admit one child free with one full paying adult' vouchers for Birdworld to say thank you for taking part in the Scarecrow Competition. If anyone would like to take advantage of this offer (valid until 31.10.09) please contact Mrs Stairs. It will be first come, first served and restricted to one voucher per family.

Postcard Exhibition

Twenty five postcards designed by children at Badshot Lea are on display at the New Ashgate Gallery in Farnham until Saturday. If you have the opportunity, do please visit the exhibition.

Fund Raising

We have enjoyed a number of fund raising events recently including our Cake Sale in support of Tree Aid. Well done to everyone who made cakes from the recipe book – they were not as easy to make as they looked! However, they tasted wonderful and a magnificent £91 was raised.

As a result of our Mini Obstacle Trail a wonderful £947 was collected in sponsorship money. What a brilliant success – thank you so much for all your support of this event. Please pass on our grateful thanks to everyone who sponsored the children. We really are very grateful.

The Curry Night, kindly arranged by The Friends, at the Taste of India in Ash, raised a huge £665. Not only was the evening great fun with delicious food and lots of laughter, it also raised a considerable amount of money. Thank you so much to everyone who helped make the evening such a success. Well done.

Finally, Mr Fox has just told me that he has raised a little over £1,000 with his amazing run in the London Marathon. Brilliant news. Well done Steve.

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported these fund raising activities and events. We really are very grateful for your support.

Internet Safety

I hope you have all received a pamphlet inviting you to attend an Internet Safety Workshop at Farnham Heath End School on Wednesday 10th June from 7-9pm. I attended a similar workshop earlier this year and was horrified to learn how easy it can be to become the victim of cyberbullying. I would recommend this workshop to all parents as it really does prepare you to help your child use the internet (and other technologies) safely. Please, if you have not already done so, do complete the form on the pamphlet indicating you would like to attend the workshop, returning it to Mrs L Holl at Farnham Heath End School as soon as possible. Thank you.

Plant Sale

The children will be hosting a Plant Sale on our return to school after the half term holiday. If you have planted vegetable and/or flower seeds and have any spare seedlings we would be delighted if you could donate them to our Plant Sale please. Also we would be happy to accept cuttings and well established plants that are no longer required. Any seedlings or cuttings may be brought into school on Tuesday 2nd, or Wednesday 3rd June. Money raised at the Plant Sale, which will take place on Wednesday 3rd June from 2.30pm, will be used to help towards the cost of our new Sensory Garden. Hosting the Plant Sale will give the children an opportunity to develop 'economic well-being' skills – an important part of our curriculum and developing life skills.

The Friends of Badshot Lea Village Infant School

Looking to next academic year The Friends of Badshot Lea Village Infant School will be seeking to appoint a new Chair of The Friends. Sadly Kirsty Snashall (parent of Jake in Sun Class) will be moving on and will no longer be Chair. If you would like to be really involved in the life of our busy school do please consider putting yourself forward to be Chair of The Friends. It is a busy but highly rewarding position. If you would like to find out more do please talk to Kirsty Snashall or Lorraine O'Mara (parent of James in Sky Class and Amy in Star Class) – they would be very happy to tell you all about the role of Chair of The Friends.

The Life of Our School

Mr Tommons (parent of Rosie in Sky Class) has very kindly agreed to record the life of our school through photographs. If you attended the Cake Sale last week you will probably have seen Mr Tommons taking lots of photographs of the event. He will endeavour to capture as many events and activities as possible to provide us with an amazing record of all that we do at Badshot Lea. So, please don't be surprised to see Mr Tommons clicking away and taking lots of photographs at future events and activities to record the life of our school.

Potters Gate Children's Centre

The new Children's Centre at Potters Gate Primary School in Farnham is holding an Open Day on Friday 12th June from 1.30-3.30pm to which all parents and pre-school children are invited. There will be a special appearance by Stephanie from Lazy Town and free activities to include: face painting; craft activities; farm animals; First Aid demonstrations; story time and refreshments.

Golden Boot Challenge

We will once again be taking part in the Golden Boot Challenge, starting directly after the half term holiday. For those parents that are new to the challenge, we hope that you will join our school community in reducing the number of car journeys to and from school during the four week long Golden Boot Challenge. A Golden Boot Challenge leaflet comes with this newsletter.

Toys in School

It has come to my notice that some children are bringing toys into school from home. As we want to avoid broken or mislaid toys please make sure that your child does not bring anything into school from home. The only exception to this is when your child's class teacher has specifically asked your child to bring an item from home that is to do with the lesson or theme. Thank you.

Farnham Carnival

There are lots of exciting things happening behind the scenes in our preparation for Farnham Carnival 2009. I really must thank the organising team of parents for their enthusiasm and continued hard work - you are all stars! Well done also to everyone preparing and making the outfits and props at the Farnham Carnival Workshops - a real hive of activity! Just a reminder that work on the centre piece of our entry will be taking place on Monday 1st June (during the Inset Day). Please let Liz Crossley (parent of Edward in Star Class), or Sara Jones (parent of Jacob in Sun Class) know if you are able to attend this workshop. Following this the next after school Farnham Carnival Workshop will take place on Monday 8th June at 3pm. In the meantime, don't forget to learn the words to our special Farnham Carnival song (to the tune of 'What shall we do with the drunken sailor').

Finally ...

We all hope you enjoy a sunny half term holiday. We finish at 3pm tomorrow (Friday) and the children return to school on Tuesday 2nd June at 9am for the second half of the Summer Term.

Yours sincerely,

Jan Weir

Dates for Your Diary

Friday 22 nd May	We finish at 3pm for the half term holiday. After school Gardening - please let Mrs Mansfield know if you can help.
Thursday 28 th May	Gardening Morning - please let Mrs Mansfield know if you can help.
Monday 1 st June	We will be CLOSED today for professional development. Farnham Carnival Workshop - please contact Liz Crossley or Sara Jones for details. Gardening Workshop - please contact Mrs Mansfield for details.
Tuesday 2 nd June	The children return to school today.
Wednesday 3 rd June	Plant Sale from 2.30pm organised by the children.
Monday 8 th June	Farnham Carnival Workshop at 3pm.
Wednesday 10 th June	Summer Tea kindly arranged by The Friends - details to follow. Internet Safety evening meeting for parents at Heath End - details already sent out.
Thursday 11 th June	South East in Bloom Judging day.
Friday 12 th June	Open Day at Potters Gate Children's Centre 1.30 - 3.30pm.
Monday 15 th June	Class Photographs. Farnham Carnival Workshop at 3pm.
Tuesday 16 th June	Eco-School Green Flag Assessment Day.
Wednesday 17 th June	We will be welcoming Rev Carol to school today to take assembly.
Saturday 27 th June	Farnham Carnival.
Monday 29 th June	Induction Meeting for new parents at 7.30pm.
Wednesday 1 st July	Year 2 children to visit William Cobbett School for the morning.
Thursday 2 nd July	Ballroom Dancing Day (for the children)!
Saturday 4 th July	Sports and Summer Fair - please put this date in your diary!
Monday 6 th July	Consultation Week - details to follow.
Wednesday 15 th July	Year 2 Stay and Play - details to follow.
Friday 17 th July	Leavers Service at St Georges Church at 9.30am for year 2 children and their parents - details to follow. Children's Disco kindly arranged by The Friends - details to follow.
Monday 20 th July	Pizza and Beach Party - details to follow.
Tuesday 21 st July	Stars of the Year Assembly for year 2 parents - details to follow. The children finish at 3pm for the Summer Holiday.
Wednesday 22 nd July	We will be CLOSED today.
Thursday 3 rd September	The children in years 1 and 2 return to school today.