

ST ANDREW'S CE VC PRIMARY SCHOOL, TAUNTON
Grove Terrace, Taunton TA2 6HA 01823 275906
email: office@st-andrews-pri.somerset.sch.uk
website: www.standrewstaunton.co.uk



NEWSLETTER 11 – AUTUMN TERM 2009

Friday 20 November 2009

Dear Parents and Children

My thanks to everyone for their enthusiastic support of today's Children in Need fundraising events.

Knitted Pudsey winners were Lexie Nicholls, Grace Thistlethwaite, Annabella Finberg, Maisy Furner, Harry Langford, Kip Von Tyszka, Kirsten Jolly and George Loker. Thanks again to Mrs Jarmain's mum for knitting the bears. The winner of the office 'Choose Pudsey' competition was George Loker.

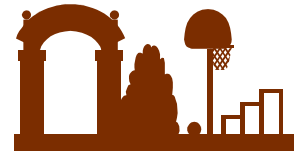


The overall winner was '**Children in Need**' for whom we raised a staggering **£285.00 !!!!**

My thanks to Mrs Staddon and PTFA Committee members who organised last Saturday's **Craft Fayre**. Unfortunately the weather was not in our favour and as a result, attendance was well down on that hoped for. Thanks to stallholders who gave up their day with little result.

USE OF THE NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

You will have noticed that we now have new lines on the Junior playground and that the exercise trail and musical instruments are installed in the Vicarage playground. We are awaiting the provision of safety surfacing, which should happen on Monday, after which the trail will be available for children's use.



We will, initially, be putting into place a rota system give different classes times when they can use the trail and instruments. We are also planning that each class teacher will take their class out to show how the trail should be used safely, so all users are clear how to use the equipment in a safe and positive way.

The equipment is designed for use by **school age children in a supervised controlled environment**. This being the case, I must **insist** that before the school day and after school the school day that the equipment is not used either by school aged children but especially not by pre-school age children. I am happy to consider a scheme in which parents, once CRB checked and after safety training, are on a rota to supervise the use of the play trail for fixed times at the beginning of the day and at the end of the school day. If you are interested in volunteering to support this scheme, please give you name to Mrs Perry in the school office.

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

As you will be aware we have been supporting the national anti-bullying week by distributing bracelets to encourage our children to speak out. Classes in Key Stage 2 were visited by PC Alderman. He worked with the classes to raise awareness of what to do and who can help if there is a problem.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that if you have a concern about your child in school relating to bullying or any other issue, the first action you should take is to contact your child's class teacher and make an appointment with them to discuss your concern. This discussion is usually sufficient to resolve most concerns. More complicated concerns will be escalated, to be dealt with by members of our school leadership team.

Trying to sort out concerns yourself without going through the method outlined above has, in my experience at a previous school, led to far more complicated and distressing implications for all those involved. Please trust us to work with you to resolve the concerns and issues that do arise. In many cases the issue and concerns are a normal part of growing up.



DESIGN A CHRISTMAS CARD

We like to send a Christmas Card to people who have helped us during the year. Please could children design us a card – only in black pen please with no writing on – that we could use. We need these by **1 December**. Everyone who enters will be given a copy of their own card to give to someone else.

POLICE 'WATCH' SCHEME NOTIFICATION

This is a general warning from the Police to those using vehicles to get to school and parents taking/collecting their families. There has been an incident of a parent's vehicle having side window broken and items stolen from inside whilst it was parked outside of a school whilst a parent was collecting their child.

This appears to be a very isolated incident - however police would take this opportunity to remind you that items of value, such as handbags, wallets, purses, small change, shopping, coats, private papers, CDs etc should not be left on display when vehicles are unattended. At the very least it is better to leave them out of sight in a covered boot area - but best not to leave anything in the vehicle at all.

With the festive season just around the corner vehicles do tend to be a little more vulnerable. A little time making sure nothing is left on display may prevent you becoming a victim of crime.

General advisory leaflets on prevention of vehicle crime are available from the Watch Scheme Office, Tel 01823-363348, Email lindsey.stone@avonandsomerset.police.uk or 'reply' to this message.

SCHOOL GOVERNOR

There was only one nomination for the parent governor vacancy - Ms Jessica Brehmer – who will be a member of the governing body for the next 4 years.

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF SCHOOL CLOSURE – Parents should this week have received details of their class contact in case of bad weather. If you have not received your copy, call into the office for another.



CHICKENS!

Class 1 children (and staff) have been very excited this week as they have been watching 3 chickens emerge from their eggs. We will have the chicks for another few days next week, and then they will go off to their country home! (Our thanks to Amanda Byrnes for organising this, and to PTFA for funding this for the children)



SURPLUS CHAIRS AND TABLES AVAILABLE SOON

As part of the refurbishment of classrooms, we have ordered new classroom tables and chairs which will be with us in the next few weeks. If you have any use for a classroom table, or chair – or know of an organisation that could use a supply of them – please contact the office as soon as possible so we can reserve them for you.

CONGRATULATIONS TO Minnie Edwards who took part in the 10 and under woodwind section of Taunton Music Festival this week and was commended for her performance. Well done, Minnie.

GOLD BOOK

.....and congratulations to the following for being mentioned in the Gold Book over the past three weeks:

Class 1	Owen Trego	*	Millie Langford		
Class 2	Nat Lyford-Smith	*	Joshua Cannon	*	Matthew Bawler
	Ross Porter	*	Grace Thistlethwaite		
Class 3	Allishia Graham	*	Astrid Kiernan	*	Jaydan Johnston
	Joe Twigg	*	Harry Hall	*	Alice Dagnall-Wise
	Lucy Hyslop				
Class 4	The whole class especially House Captains			*	Callum Jones
	Maddie Scott				
Class 5	Benji Prosser-Powell	*	Sam Corns	*	The whole class
	Harry Shipway	*	Oliver Currow	*	Izzy Lansdell
Class 6	Kieran Warren	*	Ollie Stewart	*	Jacob Wood
Class 7	Drew Mockridge	*	Dean Rowlands	*	
	Isla Emmett				
Class 8	Aiden Billett	*	Ellie Manning	*	Ella Trego
	Alice Howe				
Musicians	Sadie Jones	*	Ellie Byrnes	*	Minnie Edwards
	Class 7				
Sportspersons	Jacob Arscott	*	Billy Bradbury		

FOOTBALL CLUB

A match was played this week and the result was that the team won 3 matches and lost 1. Mr Green reports a very good match with end-to-end play. Well done to the team.

Next week's football clubs will all take place in the school playground, so please can children ensure they have trainers in school to wear instead of football boots.

PARENTS – ARE YOU INTERESTED IN RUNNING A SCHOOL CLUB – DURING LUNCHTIMES, OR AFTER SCHOOL?

If so we have some training opportunities available. Please see Miss Whalley (Class 3) or let Mrs Perry in the office now and we will give you more information.

REMINDERS:

'CHRISTMAS PRESENT' CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP

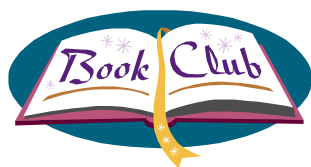
12 December from 10.00 starting and finishing in church. Registration forms from the school or church office. Places limited – book now.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS COMPETITION

Snowglobe or snowflake pictures to be in school by 27 November

SCHOOL CALENDARS - only £1 each. Call into the office to see a sample

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS – any last minute orders to be in the office asap.



SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB LEAFLETS

These are now in the office and entrance. Any orders to go with the school bulk order to be into the office with payment please by next Friday to ensure delivery before Christmas.

Yours sincerely

P. Sheehan

Headteacher

THE RAILWAY CHILDREN NATIVITY PLAY

There will be an extra meeting of Railway Children this Sunday to rehearse for the Nativity Play on 20 December. Anyone interested in taking part is invited to go along to church at 10.00 am.

BASKETBALL - TAUNTON TIGERS

We have 30 free tickets to go and watch Taunton Tigers National League versus Reading Rockets on Saturday 28 November at 6.30pm at Wellsprings Leisure Centre. These are free to children but accompanying adults will need to pay £4 a ticket. Call into the office if you would like a ticket.

SOMERSET WILDLIFE TRUST 'WILD WINTER WANDER'

On Saturday 5 December 1.30 - 3.30pm at Thurlbear Woods. Join Jane Flood, professional storyteller when, using words and stories, she will 'weave your imagination through ancient boughs of this fantastic woodland setting'. Suitable for all the family. Places limited. Contact 01823 652400 for information and to book.

FESTIVE PLAY DAY - SUNDAY 13 DECEMBER AT TAUNTON CASTLE

A variety of free activities from 11.30 - 2.00pm. Call 01823 322934 for more information.