



Rushcombe First School

Hanham Road
Corfe Mullen
Wimborne
DORSET
BH21 3PX

Headteacher: Mrs C Mahon

Tel: 01202 695722
Fax: 01202 657890
office@rushcombe.dorset.sch.uk

Newsletter 16 Summer Term 2009

2nd June 2009

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a good half term holiday and enjoyed the break.

This week, Year 4 children will be visiting Lockyers Middle School to experience a typical French market, as part of the transition process from first to middle school in learning a foreign language. A follow up session with visiting pupils and teachers from Lockyers will take place at Rushcombe on Tuesday 9th June.

Building News

Over the last two terms, I have been working closely with the school staff, governors and the Local Authority to review Rushcombe's accommodation provision and make plans for enhancing the learning environment and opportunities for the children of our school. I am delighted to inform you that we have just received the exciting news that planning permission and a grant towards the costs has been granted.

The building programme will include an extension and alterations to the existing space which will improve the accommodation and facilities at Rushcombe First School. This will include the creation of a new entrance area and offices [adjacent to the current Foundation Stage], making the hall self-contained, the development of small teaching areas for specialised teaching such as music tuition, the creation of additional storage areas and improved classrooms with the partitioning of some of the open plan bases to create individual classrooms for Year 1, 2 and 3. This will make a significant improvement to the provision of education at our school and the staff are looking forward to utilising the improved facilities in the new academic year.

It is anticipated that the building programme will commence at the beginning of the summer holidays to reduce disruption to the school and be completed by October half term. During this May half term, the Year 1 base has had a new ceiling, lighting and flooring installed as part of the refurbishment programme. Further work will take place in the current administration areas during this half term in preparation for the building programme in the summer. I will continue to keep you up to date with all developments as they occur.



Education Partnership with China

As you are aware, I, along with other headteachers and representatives from the Corfe Hills Pyramid have recently visited China where we have set up an education partnership with a group of schools in the Guizhou Province. It was a privilege to visit our partner schools and I look forward to developing the partnership further and sharing information about future activities for our children.

Sun Protection and Water Bottles

As the summer term continues, we hope that the children will be able to make good use of the field and outside areas. Please make sure your child has a sun-hat to wear and a water bottle in school. Sun hats and water bottles can be purchased from the school office. We recommend you apply sun lotion to the children before school. We have been notified by the school nurse that some sun lotions contain nut products. We would therefore appreciate it if you do not use these products at school, as we have some children who have severe allergic reactions to nuts. Thank you.

Safety in the School Grounds

Please can parents ensure that all children do not ride their scooters and bicycles in the playground at the beginning and end of the school day. Please can we also remind parents that all bikes and scooters that are left in the cycle shelter, are left at the owner's risk and that school cannot accept any responsibility for any loss or damage to these items. All children should stay with an adult and not go on to the field, including all climbing equipment, as these areas are not supervised. Thank you for your co-operation in keeping our school a safe place to be.

Home Learning

We greatly value the partnership between home and school and believe the time you spend supporting your child's learning can enhance their progress and development. Over the year, the children have shared many examples of excellent home learning which the staff have been delighted with. We would appreciate that the children return their home learning by Wednesday enabling staff to review and return their books to the children by the end of the week. If you have any further questions, please feel free to ask your child's class teacher.

Friends of Rushcombe

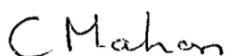
The next FOR meeting is on Tuesday 9th June at 7.00 pm to make further preparations for our summer fair. If you are unable to attend the meeting but are able to help on the day, please complete and return the slip on the bottom of the next FOR letter which will be sent out with the children later in the week. Everyone's support is much appreciated and all funds raised are used for the children at our school.

Year Group Photographs

Year group photographs will be taken on the morning of Friday 12th June. Please ensure your child is in full school uniform and brushes or combs can be brought to school on the day.

Details of further activities and events will follow during the term.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs C Mahon
Headteacher