



Rushcombe
• First School •

Rushcombe First School

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Newsletter 15 Summer Term 2009

13th May 2009

Dear Parents,

This week, a group of children from Years 1 to 4 will be representing Rushcombe at a Gymnastics Festival. We wish them well at the event and hope they enjoy the experience. I would also like to thank Mrs Songhurst and the staff involved for all their hard work in the preparation for the festival.

In addition, our Foundation children will be participating in their Celebration Assemblies this week, for their parents and families.

Staff News

At the end of this academic year, Mrs Hayman will be leaving Rushcombe to move to Yorkshire with her husband. She will continue to teach in Foundation until the end of the summer term and the children in the year group will be able to finish their year with her. In addition, Mrs Collison will be officially retiring from teaching at the end of the summer term, however, she is intending to maintain her link with Rushcombe by regularly doing supply teaching. She will work across the school using her specialist skills and knowledge to enrich the curriculum for the children. We are grateful for all their hard work and commitment over the years and will mark their contribution to the school in the summer term.

Change always presents us with challenges but also opportunities. We are hoping to appoint a new teacher to join our dedicated staff team for the beginning of the autumn term. We will keep you fully informed of the new staff appointments over the next half term and about future class arrangements as soon as we can. At Rushcombe we continue to be committed to providing high quality education for all the children in a caring and stimulating environment and thank you for your support.

As you are aware, Mrs Webb will commence her maternity leave at the end of this half term, we wish her all the best and look forward to hearing her special news later in the summer. As planned, Mrs Joyner will join the Year 3 team after the half term break.



Education Partnership with China

The Corfe Hills Pyramid, through the British Council, has formed a link with Guizhou Province in South West China. This is an exciting opportunity to develop a partnership with schools in China and provide new learning opportunities for the children in the Corfe Hills Pyramid. On May 16th representatives from each of nine schools in the Corfe Hills Pyramid, including all the headteachers in our part of the Pyramid, are travelling to China to meet their partner schools and plan future activities. We hope to develop something for all our children to look forward to in the years ahead, including joint curriculum programmes, an understanding of Chinese culture and ultimately the children may choose Mandarin as a language option at Corfe Hills School. The visit comes at the invitation of the Chinese government who are funding the programme and the pyramid is grateful for this unique opportunity.

Walk to School Week

From Monday 18th May to Friday 22nd May it is Walk to School week, which aims to encourage walking as a positive way to travel to and from school, so we hope you will support your child in walking to school or a least part of the way if you live further away. The 'Golden Boot' will be awarded to the class with the most walkers. 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. 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.

Headlice

There have been a few cases of headlice in school. Please check your child's hair regularly for any signs of adult lice or their eggs. If you do find signs of headlice, you should treat your child's hair with the appropriate treatment and check the rest of your family for any infestations. Everyone's cooperation will reduce the frequency of cases in our school.

Friends of Rushcombe

Thank you to those who were able to attend the recent Friends of Rushcombe First School meeting to make initial plans for our summer fair on Friday 3rd July and to those people who have already offered to help on the day. The next meeting is on Tuesday 9th June at 7.00 pm. If you are unable to attend the meeting but are able to help, please return the slip to the school office. Everyone's support is much appreciated and all funds raised are used for the children at our school.

Finally a reminder, this half term will finish on Friday 22nd May and the half term break will begin on Monday 25th May. I hope you all have a good week and I look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 1st June.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs C Mahon
Headteacher