



Rushcombe First School

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Newsletter 2 Autumn Term 2009

18th September 2009

Dear Parents,

It is lovely to see how the children are settling into their new classes and commencing their new learning adventures. Recently, the children in Years 4, 3 and 2 enjoyed visits to Cranborne Ancient Technology Centre, Carey Camp and Brownsea Island to support their learning.

Thank you to everyone for their cooperation and support with the new collection arrangements and temporary pathways and gates. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Thank you to those who attended our voluntary parent helpers meeting and Year 4 Information meeting this week. A reminder that the other year group information meetings are as follows:

Monday 21 st September	7.00 pm	Year 3 - Mr McCormick & Mrs Joyner
Thursday 24 th September	7.00 pm	Year 2 - Miss Brown & Mrs Russell
Monday 28 th September	7.00 pm	Year 1 - Miss Gerra & Miss Gurney
Tuesday 29 th September	7.00 pm	Foundation - Mrs Connolly & Miss Newbury

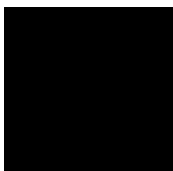
Entry into school will be via the school playground and we would appreciate that children are not brought with you on this occasion. Later in the term, we will be organising individual parent consultations to enable children's progress to be reviewed in more detail.

Lockyers Middle School Information Session

A reminder that Mr Anthony Argles, the Headteacher of Lockyers Middle School, will be leading an information session for Year 4 parents at Rushcombe School on Wednesday 23rd September at 6.30pm in the school hall.

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. In school, we encourage the children to demonstrate independence and involvement in, and responsibility for their learning, and we aim for their home learning to support this. Guidelines suggest that children in Years 1 and 2 should spend approximately one hour per week on home learning and for children in Years 3 and 4 this increases to approximately one and a half hours per week.



This week, children in Years 1 - 4 will be bringing home their reading book. Regular reading is vital and should be the main focus of home learning, with children spending approximately 10 to 20 minutes a day either reading with an adult or if they are fluent readers, reading on their own. It is important that children have opportunities to discuss their reading to enhance their understanding and comprehension. We would appreciate if children could bring their reading bag and book each day so that staff can continue to hear the children read regularly.

Staff are currently preparing the Home Learning packs for each year group and will share more details at the parents information session. The first home learning packs will be brought home by the children on Friday 2nd October which will include a variety of Maths and English activities/suggestions/resources. The children will also bring home their home learning log.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

During the autumn term there will be a range of interesting and enjoyable opportunities for children to become involved in during the school day, in after school clubs and at special events. Information has gone out to the year groups involved earlier this week. Further information about recorder lessons for Years 2, 3 and 4 will follow soon.

Reception Intake for 2010

Any parents wishing their child to come to Rushcombe First School in September 2010, whose child will be 5 in the academic year of 1st September 2010 to 31st August 2011, need to inform the school as soon as possible. Application forms must be returned to the School Office by Friday 4th December. I am happy to meet parents and show them around the school. Please pass this message on to any families you know. If you need any advice, please see myself or Mrs Wardman in the school office.

Year 4 Transfer to Middle Schools

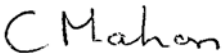
Parents of Year 4 children have recently received information about their child's transfer to middle school. Application forms need to be completed and returned to the School Office by Friday 4th December 2009.

Further autumn term dates for your diaries:

Tuesday 13 th October	Year 2 Celebration Assembly [Miss Brown's class] at 2.40 pm in the school hall
Thursday 15 th October	Year 2 Celebration Assembly [Mrs Russell's class] at 2.40 pm in the school hall
Monday 26 th - Friday 30 th October	HALF TERM
Friday 6 th November	Photographer in school to take individual and sibling photos
Tuesday 10 th November	Parent Teacher Consultations, 3.20 pm - 6.10 pm
Thursday 12 th November	Parent Teacher Consultations, 5.00 pm - 7.50 pm
Wednesday 18 th November	Year 4 Celebration Assembly [Mrs Holmes/Mrs Benham's class] at 2.40 pm in the school hall
Thursday 19 th November	Year 4 Celebration Assembly [Mrs Ely/Mrs Hill's class] at 2.40 pm in the school hall
Friday 18 th December	Last day of term - school closes 1.00 pm

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

Yours sincerely,


Mrs C Mahon