



Lydeard St Lawrence SCHOOL NEWS

Autumn 2007

September 5th

Welcome back to school!

We have some new school members joining us this term and would like to wish them and their families a warm welcome to our school community. We are joined by Amelia Mowat, Y2; Daisy Waldock, Yr 1; Tom Waldock, Yr4 and Mr Pepper teaching in Class 3. Tomorrow, Kavita Johnson, Joanne Criddle, Rohan Fidell, Sydney Farthing and Imogen Fairweather will be having their first morning in school. We will welcome the rest of the reception class next week. I am pleased to say our school is now almost full to capacity, which is a very healthy sign in the current climate.

Harvest Festival is very early this year, on Monday, 17th September. As usual, we will be celebrating this in the Church starting at 9.15. Please come and join us for our Harvest Service. The children are asked to bring a harvest box or contribution to school on the morning of the service and the contents are auctioned, along with the Church's donations, in aid of Water Aid. We would also like to support Seeds for Africa, a charity that provides Primary schools with seeds, tools and trees in a way that does not develop a culture of dependency. We will be cooking and selling produce for this later in September.

I hope you were all as proud as we were to be awarded the Healthy School Award. Along with our healthy eating initiatives, sport figures very highly on our school's strengths. We will be running a number of sports clubs this term, including Multi-skills for Yr 1 and 2, rugby and football for KS2 (Yr3 – 6). There will be other clubs beginning slightly later in the term and some that will begin after half term, due to the current commitments of staff. Cross Country Running will continue and I will run occasional hockey classes as my timetable allows. I will give the children notice of this and send a letter out when I can confirm the dates.

We will also be going to St George's, Taunton, each Friday morning with class 2 and 3. The children will need normal PE kit (a white T shirt and black shorts) and a swimming costume, towel and swimming hat. The hats can be purchased from Mrs O'Brien for £1 or you can provide your own, but they must be worn in St George's pool. The children do not need trainers or daps for their gym lessons.

We subsidise the cost of hiring the hall, the swimming coach, lifeguard and transport, so we can reduce the voluntary contribution needed to cover costs to £1.20 per week. This is very low compared to many schools, especially those who have a distance to travel. In fact it would hardly cover your parking ticket if you were driving them yourself! The cost will be £7.20 for this half term and £8.40 next half term. Anyone wishing to pay for the whole term can send £15.00, cheques made payable to Somerset County Council.

Fruity Tuck shop began this week, with most of the children enjoying a cup of fruit and vegetables at break time. Fruit is £1 a week and will cost £6.80 this half term, £7.80 next half term, or £14 for the whole term. Cheques made payable to Lydeard St Lawrence School please. The children are ready for a snack by break time, so please send some fruit in for them if you prefer not to use the fruit tuck shop.

Thank you for all your contributions to the bag2school scheme, organised by Fern Baker. Your clothes, bedding and other unwanted items raised £152.50 last year. Fern is kindly going to continue with this scheme in the coming year, so we are always grateful for your unwanted clothes and soft furnishings.

The Community Owl Project is holding a training/information session about Tawny and little owls at the Village Hall at 7.30pm on 27th September. From now until November, we will be hearing these owls and if you want to become involved in this project to map the owl population, do go along. If you see or hear owls in the area surrounding the village, contact Nicole Lloyd-Jones on 01984 667395 or hughhlj@hotmail.com.

Mrs Bennett is enjoying her long holiday! She has sent a letter of thanks for her leaving gifts and it is attached to this newsletter.

Finally...

We will be having an information evening for all our parents on Wednesday 19th September in the school. It is for new parents, 'old' parents and those who are interested in the kind of things that go on in school. Meet the teachers more informally than at Parents' evening, look round their classes, find out about clubs, sports, music opportunities. Challenge Mrs Willis to find a way of labelling ANYTHING – believe me she can, and does! Look at school uniform choices, get information about fundraising, try a sample of fruity tuck or our great hot school meals. Perhaps try a glass of something...healthy.

Flyers will be sent shortly. Put it in your diary!

It's good to be back!

Gill Stripp
Headteacher.