



Lydeard St Lawrence  
**SCHOOL NEWS**

Autumn 2008

5<sup>th</sup> September

Welcome back to school!

The children seem very settled already and working well in all three classes, and it's lovely to see them all looking so cheerful and energetic at playtimes – clearly pleased to see all their friends again.

With this letter we have a list of dates for the whole academic year. Obviously we will update this as the year progresses, but we have most of the relevant events and, more importantly, the holiday and INSET dates (INSET is teacher training and the children are not in school on these days.)

Clubs will start in the week beginning 15<sup>th</sup> September and Miss Wood will send out a clubs list at the beginning of next week. The dates and times of the meetings will be on the list, so you can keep these in your diaries. If anyone is interested in helping with, or running an after school club, please contact me!

The children in KS2 (classes 2 and 3) will be swimming and doing gymnastics/dance at St George's this term and the cost will be £1.50 per child per week. The LA subsidises the cost of transport and we pay for the swimming instructor and hire of the pool and gym. This voluntary parental contribution allows the trip to Taunton to remain viable and is much less than paid by most schools for weekly swimming. We will be swimming for two blocks of 7 weeks this term - £10.50 per half term or £21 for the whole term. Cheques made payable to Somerset County Council please and sent to your child's class, not direct to the office, please.

Fruity tuck has started again, with the children enjoying their healthy snack. Fruity tuck costs £1 per week for a wide variety of fruit and vegetables each day. £7.00 for the first half term and £6.80 for the second. £13.00 if you would like to pay for the whole term! Cheques made payable to Lydeard St Lawrence School.

We really need some help with preparing the fruit in the morning. It doesn't take too long, and without a team of parent helpers the children will not be able to continue having their fruit snack in this way. If you can help for ANY amount of time on ANY day of the week, please sign up on the noticeboard or contact Wizz Appleton or Sarah Wood.

Another way that parents can help is to support the Parent Teacher and Friends Association. The AGM is on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 7.30pm in class 3. Come along and find out what is going on and perhaps help at an event. We will need to elect a new Chair at this meeting, so perhaps you might want to volunteer for that job?! Contact Lizzie Hill or any committee member if you would like to know more.

Breakfast Club continues in the School Hall and runs from 8.00am until 8.30am, when the children go out to the playground. The cost is £1.50 a session and includes a toast and cereal breakfast. If you are coming along for occasional days (early start needed for work, shopping etc) than pay on the day. Regular visits can be paid by cheque. Please see Mickey Adams for further details. This club is very heavily subsidised as we have a very small number of children,

but the governors realise that it plays a very important role for some families. We would hate to lose this provision, so do consider using the club if you need an early start occasionally, or have changing family commitments.

There are two black bags of lost property in the library, and there are several winter jackets in there. There are also several items with names in. I have given some of these back so many times, I am afraid the children will need to look for themselves now. If you think you have lost a winter jacket do check the lost property basket.

Do check the dates list for upcoming events. Harvest festival, McMillan coffee afternoon and MAD day are among the first, so book them in your diaries now.

Mrs O'Brien will be taking part in the annual Women's Challenge in aid of Breast Cancer Care. This is a 5K run in Hyde Park on Sunday – look out for her on the telly! Sponsor form on the noticeboard if you would like to support this good cause.

The Tour of Britain will be travelling along the bottom road on Tuesday and we would love the children to see it. There is no easy and simple way to organise this for the children, as getting them there and then returning to school safely is quite problematic. However, so that those children who wish to see the race can go, I propose to walk them to the bottom of the hill, so that the children can watch from the side of the road under the railway bridge (near Cedar Falls). The race is due to pass this point between 2.00pm and 2.45pm, depending on speed and road conditions. If you would like your child to go, the only way I can manage their return is to ask you to collect them from the bottom of the road at 2.45pm. Remember this road will be closed until the tour has passed anyway, so if your child is not going to watch you will probably need to use a different route home. The Tour turns left at Cedar falls, into the village and up Cothelstone Hill. We will go even if it rains. Please look for the letter and return the reply slip on Monday please.

Lovely to see you all back again,  
Have a good weekend.

Gill Stripp  
Headteacher.