



Lydeard St Lawrence SCHOOL NEWS

Spring 2010

8th March

It has been a very busy few weeks here in school and plans are well under way to start the installation of the new kitchen before the end of term. We will be planning some trial weeks for hot meals and sandwich lunches so that we can test the viability of providing this service.

Like breakfast club and After School Club, which were both provided in response to parent requests, hot lunch provision has to be self-funding and an accurate measure of the demand is essential at the planning stage. The wrap around care we provide is cheaper than that provided by local schools, yet still it is unlikely to be able to continue in the current format unless the community has an ongoing use for it.

I really believe passionately in providing high quality, good value food options for the children and am committed to establishing this in our school. With everyone's support I am sure we will see this firmly established by the new academic year.

Two new school teams turned out last week, and did a fantastic job of representing us. The netball team played in their first tournament (only the second time they had seen a court!) and won two of their matches; and the showjumping team competed at Heazle Farm on Sunday. We had a team of 4 and got through to the second round with 12 faults. Hetty and Daisy completed 2 clear rounds each, and Charlotte and Henry Scott completed a very successful team effort.

The Cross Country runners also did extremely well on Monday, with our first relay team finishing 7th and our fastest three runners coming in the top 15 individually. These were Henry Scott, Rich Baker and Ben Luxton. Everyone ran well and no-one gave up in the cold and muddy conditions, which was very impressive. Thanks are due to the parents and brothers and sisters of all those competing for the school, who had to endure freezing conditions at all three events. (Some of them at all three!)

Well done to Miss Wood and Mrs David for getting their team ready for the matches and to Caroline Moore for organising the riding team.

If any of you would be interested in organising a sports activity, I would very much appreciate it, and can organise relevant training if needed. The more opportunities of different types we offer our children the more chance they have of finding a sport they can enjoy.

Emily Fairweather's website is currently showing some pictures of the Christmas Grotto and she has been taking others to upload to the site. If you want to be able to see these pictures, please contact us for the password. Please take care of this, as we have decided not to publish it in any school documents, to ensure parents only have access to the pictures. There are no names attached to the photos, as agreed in the picture permission form.

On Wednesday afternoon there will be a funeral at the church at 2.30pm. This means their cars will be already outside the church and in the village hall car park (and possibly along the road by the school). All classes will be finishing at 2.45pm and we will be taking the children to the taxi parking area for you to collect them. If there are no parking spaces, we should be able to establish a system whereby you stop just before the gates

and we escort the children into the cars. Taxis will be in the usual place at the usual times. By planning ahead, we reduce the chaos a little and show we are being good neighbours. If you have noticed the sign opposite the school, it is there to remind you that we need to park with care. Parking on or opposite the zigzag lines is dangerous and illegal.

Thank you for sending back your parent governor votes. Mrs Wizz Appleton has been elected as the parent governor in the election that closed at 12.00pm today.

If any parents would like to help in the classrooms in Science week, please contact the class teachers, so that we can pass this on to Mrs David. Extra pairs of hands are always useful, particularly with practical tasks and activities.

Film on Friday was very well attended at the end of February, so we are following this with the Oscar-winning animated feature film 'Finding Nemo'. Every member has a personal log on identity, so that they can go online and review the films, choose future screenings and browse the films available. We will only be showing 'U' rated films to begin with, but then will have different screenings for different age-ranges.

I very much appreciated the help given by Oliver, Rich, Rhys and Harry with the refreshments. Charlie, Rebekah, Matteus, Thomas and Sasha put reviews on the website following the screening, so well done to all of them!

I do need a reply slip for each screening so that I know how many children I am supervising. If your child didn't come last time, I will activate their membership before Friday, so that they can attend. Please return the slips before the end of the week. Some children did not bring money for refreshments last week, but fresh water is always available for them to drink. Please put their spending money in a named purse or envelope on Friday morning (Please don't send to the office, as Miss Wood is not there at the start of Film Club.)

Please make sure the children have a refillable water bottle in school, their PE kit and a warm coat, as our playground is still freezing in the mornings.

Finally, with Science and Technology week approaching, Mrs Villis is preparing a competition around inanimate objects and their properties! Look out for details and we will be displaying your entries in the Hall throughout the week. Mrs David has planned several exciting visits and visitors during the week, including the K'nex challenge and the whole school trip to Carrymoor recycling centre. Several governors will be visiting this week to help with activities, and parent volunteers are welcome. If you are only coming for one or two visits to the classrooms Disclosure is not required.

I hope you are all enjoying the sunshine

Gill Stripp
Headteacher