

Werrington Primary School  
Newsletter  
November/December 2009

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wish to start by thanking you for the great support you have offered to school over recent weeks. Parents - Teacher consultations were very well attended, I was most pleased to have conversations with many of you regarding the progress of your child/children. Parent Governor elections were held with a good level of voting response and we welcome Mr Manning Parent Governor to the Governing Body as well as welcoming back Mrs Gage in her role as Parent Governor.

Our Christmas Fayre was very well supported with the Year 6 pupils doing a fantastic job designing and running stalls. It was lovely to be able to host Father Christmas and I hope the other attractions on offer made the event an enjoyable one for all of the family. So far the total raised exceeds £600 which will be reflected in our donation to the The Help for Heroes Charity as well as fund the Christmas parties in school. We have also been delighted to receive scrumptious produce for the Christmas Hampers on Mufti Day last Friday. Our thanks is extended to the PTA who yet again worked their magic to create superb hampers. Thank you once again.

#### **WPS – Top 4% of all schools nationally**

I am very pleased to share with you that we have been placed in the Top 4% of all primary schools nationally for English, and top15% for all subjects (English, Maths and Science) in recent data published by Ofsted for the year 2008-2009. This represents a huge achievement for us given the development areas we identified and the new strategies we have put in place, particularly in writing. We are focused on striving to maintain this ensuring all pupils achieve their best. Well done everyone.

#### **Keeping Up with Your Child in Numeracy**

I am delighted to announce the Keeping Up with Your Child in Numeracy Course will be running in the New Year starting Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January (9.15am-11.15am for 6 weeks). The aim of this course is for parents/carers to enhance their knowledge regarding the methods schools use in teaching Numeracy. Feedback from a previous course we have run at WPS identified that parents overwhelmingly felt that it made a huge difference to their understanding and ability to support their child at home. We have 14 places available, please use the reply slip to request a place.

#### **Parents/Carers KS2**

It has come to my attention that a number of parents are accessing KS2 classrooms internally having dropped off a KS1 child in the morning or via the KS2 playground. All pupils in Year 3-6 are to enter school via the playground access points without parents/carers. This enables the children to develop their independence as well as school knowing who is on site. In the interests of pupil and personal safety please ensure that you go to the school office so the visitor log can be signed and therefore provide an accurate log of who is on site. If you need to pass on a message to the class teacher the office will be very pleased to co-ordinate this for you. Your co-operation with this is appreciated.

#### **Push Chairs – KS1**

I am sure you have noticed the volume of traffic each morning going down to KS1 classes (Reception, Y1 and Y2) is considerable. For some this is a complex journey particularly if it involves negotiating corridors with prams and push-chairs. I sensitively ask Year 1 and 2 parents to consider whether their child can take themselves down to class independently. For some children this process may take longer but by Year 2 we should expect children to get to class on their own. In the interests of pupil safety I urge everyone to consider how they can help with regard to this situation.

### **Wider Opportunities Music**

Wider Opportunities evolved following the government's Wider Entitlement pledge that '...over time, all pupils in primary schools who wish to, will have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument'. Year 3 and Year 4 have been selected for this provision and our full programme will start in January. Year 3 will learn the Tin Whistle with progression to Recorder in Year 4. It will take place during the timetabled music sessions with a specialist Primary Music Teacher alongside the class teachers. The school is providing all pupils and teachers with their own instrument for use in school. You may of course wish to provide your child with an instrument for use at home. This may be useful information particularly given the time of year.

Mr Wilding

### **KS2 Spanish Club**

Buenos dias! We have had a great start to our Key Stage 2 Spanish Club, which takes place every Tuesday lunchtime, with over 50 pupils showing great enthusiasm for learning a new language alongside their French. We are learning through speaking activities, songs and games.

Thank you for your support in collecting Morrison's Let's Grow vouchers – Eco Committee members counted up a total of 6,500 vouchers which have now been sent off with our order. As a result, in the new year we should receive a wormery to help compost our fruit waste, as well as much needed tools and seeds to use in both the conservation area and the new courtyard. We are very grateful for your help.

Mrs Standen

### **Sports**

In terms of sporting events, we've played two football matches, and despite being on the losing end, the boys have shown great spirit and never gave up. Year 4 pupils also had a very enjoyable athletics afternoon at Ken Stimpson recently.

Mr Moody

### **KS1 Performance**

Rehearsals are now underway for our KS1 performance 'The Night Before Christmas'. The children are working hard and have enjoyed learning the lively songs. A big thank you to all the parents for supporting the children in learning their words. We look forward to seeing you during our performances.

Miss Woodliffe

### **Useful Dates**

8<sup>th</sup> December – 9.30am KS1 play for playgroups, and 1.30pm for parents with younger children

9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> December - 1.30pm KS1 play for adults only

9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> December – 6.30pm Y4 Concert

10th December School Christmas Lunch – fully booked, no further orders can be accepted

Parties - 14<sup>th</sup> December Year 2; 15<sup>th</sup> December Years 1 and 4;

16<sup>th</sup> December Reception and Year 5; 17<sup>th</sup> December Years 3 and 6

18<sup>th</sup> December – Break up

4<sup>th</sup> January – Staff Training Day (First Aid Training)

5<sup>th</sup> January School Opens

8<sup>th</sup> January KUC Numeracy starts

Yours sincerely

Mr B Wilding

**Keeping Up With Your Child – NUMERACY (KUC Numeracy)**

I would like to gain a place on the Keeping Up With Your Child in Numeracy course starting on January 8<sup>th</sup> 2010.

I have a child/children in Class \_\_\_\_\_

Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number \_\_\_\_\_

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