

Werrington Primary School Newsletter
April/May 2009

Dear Parents,

Welcome back and I hope you all had a lovely Easter break. We have a busy term ahead with lots of exciting opportunities to look forward to not least residential programmes, trips, sports days and assemblies/concerts.

Transition Class Review - Our current Foundation Unit (Reception), Y2 and Y4 classes will be reviewed this term. This process will enable the school to evaluate academic, social and behaviour issues within these transition year groups. This year will be the first evaluation of the transition year groups since we undertook the whole school review two years ago. Class changes will be considered by relevant staff and take into account issues that have developed over the last two years.

Mr Wilding - China - This half term I shall be joining several other Headteachers and Senior Leaders from Peterborough Schools/LA on a trip to China – Beijing and Guangdong Province. The aim being to develop sustainable links with schools in China as part of our Global Dimension which Miss Gedge has been leading on in school this year. We are part of a larger group who are taking part from all over England.

Pandemic Flu Guidance - The current Flu situation around the world is changing daily and causing some concern. However **sensible and proportionate** action is required by all. The DCSF (Department for Children Schools and Families) have issued some guidance which has been placed on our school website (www.werringtonprimaryschool.co.uk) or it can be down loaded from www.dh.gov.uk/pandemicflu. I have included the main points below.

What is pandemic flu?

Pandemic flu is a type of influenza that occurs every few decades and which spreads rapidly to affect most countries and regions around the world. The symptoms of pandemic flu are similar to those of ‘ordinary’ flu but are usually more severe.

What you should do now:

Help us by ensuring we have **up to date and reliable contact information**. Teach and encourage your children to:

- wash their hands using soap and water
- cover their mouth when coughing or sneezing – using a tissue is good
- throw dirty tissues away quickly into bins

These simple actions are the sort of thing that every child should do, even in ordinary times, but they will also help to slow the spread of a flu virus.

When a pandemic happens, we will ensure that information is passed on efficiently and in a timely manner.

What may happen if a pandemic arrives in the UK?

During a pandemic, most services will try to maintain normal services. However, it is possible that some schools or services such as childcare may be advised to close to stop the virus spreading between children; or some may need to close because of staff being off work ill. If this happens, you will get information from school, nursery or childcare providers if they are closing, and they would also contact you to advise you of their re-opening. We shall use **email/website/telephone** methods of communication. If your child is at school, and the school remains open, your normal duty to send your child to school still applies. If your child shows any signs of flu-like illness, keep them at home and inform the school.

During the pandemic the school may need to contact you at short notice, for example if your child falls sick during the day. This is why it is so important that your contact details, for you and anyone else who looks after your child, are kept up to date.

Other services may be affected, such as the school meals service. The school will advise you of any alternative arrangements it has to make in these circumstances.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Wilding