



# Newsletter for Parents and Carers

February 2011

## Happy New Year 2011



I hope you all had a good Christmas and New Year and already it is in the dim and distance past!

Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to the fundraising we did just before Christmas for our link school, Hart House in Gambia. We were able to send £515.50. Geoff Hunwicks who runs the school wishes me to pass on his thanks to you all. We will continue to support the school at different events over the coming year.

If we have bad weather we have good systems in place to get the message of any closure out to you as soon as possible and many parents/carers have remarked how well the text system worked. Please be assured that it is a very difficult decision that I have to make and I consider many different factors before making it: what is the weather forecast for the day, will drivers be going out, are the roads safe, can staff get to work and so on. At the end of the day it is a judgement call and I can only make the decision that I feel will ensure everyone's safety. Please be assured that the initial intention is always to be open as usual and the decision to close is always a last resort. Please make sure we have all current contact telephone numbers for you especially if you had a new mobile with a different number for Christmas.



## Pantomime

I have been asked to let you know that the Tuddenham Players are performing 'Cinderella' at Tuddenham Village Hall and you are invited to the dress rehearsal performance on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2011 at 7:30 pm. The evening is free and tea and coffee will be served during the interval. They would love to see you there but you need to contact Joy Harris for more information. Her email is [Joy.r.harris@btinternet.com](mailto:Joy.r.harris@btinternet.com) and telephone number is 01473 333508.

## Stars



Stars will be having a coffee morning on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February on Secondary Campus at 10.30 am for parents of those who already attend Stars and those who are interested in finding out more. Stars is run independently of the school for all the students who attend the Secondary Campus. They meet Tuesday and Thursday 3.30-5.30 and offer a wide range of activities. If you are interested in attending the coffee morning please call Ipswich 691947 before 4<sup>th</sup> February.



## Health Matters

Recently you should have received a newsletter from the school nursing team. In there it outlined when to keep your child at home. I know this is often a very difficult decision to make especially early in the morning but I have taken the liberty of repeating this information here to help you make an assessment of the situation.

### When to Keep your Child at Home

- Cough or Cold. A child with a minor cough or cold may attend school. If the cold is accompanied by a raised temperature, shivers or drowsiness, the child should stay off school.
- Raised Temperature: If your child has a raised temperature, they shouldn't attend school. They can return 24 hours after they are feeling better.
- Vomiting and Diarrhoea: Children with these conditions should be kept off school. They can return 48 hours after their systems disappear.
- Sore Throat: A sore throat alone doesn't have to keep a child from school. If it is accompanied by a raised temperature, the child should stay at home.

## Get Going



Get Going is a UK Charity for disabled motorists and blue badge holders. They are launching a forum for 15-26 year olds with disabilities. The launch will be Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February 11 am to 4 pm and is free to 15-26 year old disabled youngsters and their friends and families. More details are available from [www.getgoing.now.org](http://www.getgoing.now.org) or 01585 489 449



## Valentine Workshop

Suffolk Befriending Scheme are holding a Valentine Workshop on Saturday 12th February 10-4 at the United Reformed Church Felixstowe. The activities include: cookery variety of crafts and quizzes. The fee for the day is £25 and the fee for carers and those who are cared for £5 (which is subsidised by SCC) Places are limited and closing date is February 4th. More information available from Seamus 07960424217 or SBS office 01787 371333 [info@suffolkbefriendingscheme.org.uk](mailto:info@suffolkbefriendingscheme.org.uk)



## Dentist

On the Primary Campus we will be having our first visit from the dental hygienist on Thursday February 10<sup>th</sup>. Please ensure your child comes to school with a toothbrush and toothpaste. Forms have gone out in readiness for the dentist's visit on March 1<sup>st</sup> on Primary Campus and 17<sup>th</sup> February on Secondary Campus. Please remember that your child can not be seen without the signed consent form being returned.



## Parents Evening

### Dates for your diary:-

In the Autumn Term Parents' Evening was on the same date on both Campuses. This meant I needed to split my time between the two. Therefore, so I can be available should you wish to see me I am proposing we have two different dates this term. They are:  
Wednesday 2nd March – Primary Campus  
Wednesday 9th March – Secondary Campus  
A letter will be coming home shortly

## Dates for your Diary

3<sup>rd</sup> February – Hairdresser - Secondary Campus  
8<sup>th</sup> February – Hairdresser on Primary Campus  
9<sup>th</sup> February – Stars Coffee morning 10.30 Secondary Campus.  
11<sup>th</sup> February- UNICEF Assembly – Primary Campus  
15<sup>th</sup> February –Makaton training - Primary Campus  
18<sup>th</sup> February – Break up for half term  
28<sup>th</sup> February – Back to school  
1<sup>st</sup> March – Transition coffee morning at Secondary Campus  
2<sup>nd</sup> March – Parents' Evening – Primary Campus  
3<sup>rd</sup> March – Hairdresser on Secondary Campus  
9<sup>th</sup> March – Parents' Evening – Secondary Campus  
15<sup>th</sup> March - Workshop for parents of Creative Use of Colour -Primary Campus  
22<sup>nd</sup> March – Informal Coffee Morning Secondary Campus  
28<sup>th</sup> March- **Staff Development Day Secondary Campus only**  
4th April - **Staff Development Day for Whole School**  
8<sup>th</sup> April– **Break up for Easter**

## Youth Parliament Days

Jacob Harrison and Ben Cresswell from the Secondary Campus are Youth MPs representing the school and they have recently attended two Youth Parliament days. On 18th January they worked hard preparing for the main Parliament Day on 28th January. They looked at completed health issues questionnaires concerning health services for our students.

The venue on the 28th January was St Nicholas Church where they worked together with students from ten other schools, looking at what could be included in a Health Passport. Discussions evolved around doctor and hospital visits and good and bad experiences they had had. Outside agencies such as Out and About and the Health Service also attended to listen and take away any ideas which were discussed to use to make experiences more accessible and enjoyable for our students. Lunch was provided which was enjoyed by all.

## Housing Information Day

On Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at Felixstowe Youth and Community Centre, Orwell High School Felixstowe between 10 am and 3 pm there is to be an information day aimed at providing general information on the advantages of supported housing over other types of accommodation. The aim of the day is to provide information on specific housing related issues and the opportunity to have private consultations. To book a place and/or appointment please email [Kim.Edwards@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Kim.Edwards@suffolk.gov.uk) or telephone 01284 758583

## UNICEF's Day for Change Day

On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February on Primary Campus we are supporting UNICEF's Day for change where we will donate any loose change to support children's right to education, to health, to a childhood, to be treated fairly, and the right to be heard. Please send in any coins you wish to donate in an envelope and your child will be able to donate them during the special assembly.



## And Finally.....

### Mencap's Big Cuts event

As you will be aware from the news the government is proposing to make cuts to lots of services for people with a learning disability. Mencap believe that by making the cuts they will spend less money of things like social services or benefits. Therefore, Mencap are arranging an information day on February 2nd 10am to 4 pm at the Central Baptist Church, Chelmsford Essex CM1 1LN to give information about the cuts to the local learning disability services how they will effect you.

If you have any questions or you want to book a place please call Mencap 01905 740 500, email [wendy.mobbs@mencap.org.uk](mailto:wendy.mobbs@mencap.org.uk) or get an online booking form from [www.mencap.org.uk/bigcutseven](http://www.mencap.org.uk/bigcutseven)



