

# Newsletter for Parents and Carers

March 2011



A View from The Bridge



## Staff Development Days

The nights and mornings are getting lighter and there is a real feel of Spring in the air and before we know it the Easter holidays will be with us. Please remember that we have some training days coming up for both Secondary and Primary Campuses. The Secondary Campus have training on Monday March 28<sup>th</sup> so the pupils on Secondary Campus will not be attending school on this day but it remains a normal school day on the Primary Campus. We then have two further training days on Monday April 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday April 26<sup>th</sup>. These training days will apply to both Campuses. Staff Development days are very important for all staff to continue their training and to ensure that relevant updates are carried out. I will soon be arranging the dates for the next academic year and I will share these with you as soon as they are confirmed.

Following a successful application for funding I am pleased to say that the holiday club on the Primary Campus will be able to continue for another year. The Stars bid for funding was also successful and so both Holiday Clubs will be running again during the Easter holiday. If your child hasn't attended previously and you would like more information please contact either Miglena via the school office for Primary pupils, or Sonia on Ipswich 691947 for Secondary pupils.

There will be an Easter Assembly on the Primary Campus at 10.00 am on 8<sup>th</sup> April if you wish to join us.



## Wet Wipes

As you know we are all experiencing rising prices and therefore have to be extra careful where we spend our money. It has come to my attention that we are spending a lot of money each month purchasing wet wipes for use at the time of swimming and changing. Please could I ask that you supply a packet of wet wipes for your child's use. The class team will make you aware of when these need to be replaced. I'm sure you will agree that this is an area that we can try and save some of our budget.



## Fund Raising

On the Primary Campus in January you all very generously sent in your textiles and we collected 361 kgs. Thank you very much to everyone who contributed as we raised £151.62 to buy plants for our environmental garden planters. We are hoping to collect clothes again in the Summer Term but please do not send in items until we let you know when. The UNICEF Assembly on Primary Campus raised £33.71, thank you again. Red Nose Day (March 18th) will be celebrated in many different ways on both campuses and if you wish to purchase a Red Nose and make a donation please send your money into the school office. On Primary Campus staff and pupils are 'doing something funny for money' by dressing up as either Monsters or Pirates.

Pirates will also feature large at the Secondary Campus.

Look out on the website for some interesting photographs.



## Building Houses through time

KS3 students on the Secondary Campus have been to Belstead House to experience and explore building materials. The students Science theme is "building houses through time". They explored the outside of the building where they found brick, render, wood, plastic and metal. Inside the house they found wood, brass and tiles. Students examined a variety of building materials back in the classroom where they attempted to construct buildings from some of these building materials.



## Contact a Family

Contact a Family's Family Support Service focuses on maximizing income for families by helping you access welfare benefits and other sources of financial help. If you would like to attend their event on Friday 18th March 10:00 -2:00 at The Oaks Children's Centre Grange Road, Felixstowe, please book to ensure a place by contacting Rachel Hill on 01473 41310 or email [rachel.hill@cafamily.org.uk](mailto:rachel.hill@cafamily.org.uk)



## Makaton Signing Workshop

I have been made aware of a Parents and Carers Beginner's Workshop which will be running at Ipswich Hospital at the East Suffolk Child Development Centre Playroom. The course will cover Stage 1-4 and will run on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March and Monday May 16<sup>th</sup> 10:00 – 2:00 pm. If you are interested in attending please contact Anna Carter on 01473 702190

## History of Food

Green Class have been learning in History about how people cooked their food in the past and have tasted food from tins. They visited Christchurch Mansion to look at the old kitchen there. They saw the old pans, plates, bowls and cutlery. When they got back to school they painted willow pattern plates just like the ones they had seen at the Mansion and displayed them in class. They are looking forward to visiting Ipswich Museum to see the different Kitchens they have on display.



As part of the History of Food topic the whole of Primary Campus will be celebrating by having a street party on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April where we will also be dressing up in clothes of the 1940's so we would be grateful if you could dress your child up for the day.



As Music Coordinator on Primary Campus, Lisa Burl is proposing to invite parents in to a 'Sing a long' workshop. This will enable parents to sing the songs that are used in school. This is likely to take place in the Summer Term. This will also be part of the Silver Award scheme we are trying to achieve on the Primary Campus. Look out for the invite!



## Dates for your Diary

- 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Informal Coffee Morning Secondary Campus
- 24<sup>th</sup> March – Hairdresser on Secondary Campus
- 28<sup>th</sup> March- **Staff Development Day Secondary Campus only**
- 4th April - **Staff Development Day for Whole School**
- 6<sup>th</sup> April – Hairdresser on Primary Campus
- 8<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Assembly 10.00 am – Primary Campus
- 8<sup>th</sup> April– Break up for Easter
- 26<sup>th</sup> April – Staff Development Day for Whole School**
- 27<sup>th</sup> April – Return to school
- 29<sup>th</sup> April – Bank Holiday for Royal Wedding**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Bank Holiday**
- 10<sup>th</sup> May – Dental Hygienist to visit Parents Group on Primary Campus



## Ipswich Mencap Society

Ipswich Mencap support people of all ages with Learning Disabilities and they run a R & R Club on a Wednesday Evening at the Rushmere Resource Unit, Humber Doucy Lane, Ipswich. Use of a sensory room, art room and sensory garden are all available. For more information call Barbara Thorn on 01473 437241 or Sarah Woods on 01473 240783

## Jacqui Davies

Some parents and carers will be aware Jacqui is absent from school as she is undergoing chemotherapy. Jacqui is keeping upbeat and is determined to be back at work as soon as her doctors will allow. I know she is missing being in school working alongside the children, her colleagues and parents and carers. We all wish Jacqui a speedy recovery and I know you will join us all in wishing for this too.



## Parents Group

We haven't had as many parents signing up for the Parents Group Sessions for this term. If you would like to attend but haven't returned your slip or have mislaid it please let the school office know there is still time. On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May Brenda Wykes the school hygienist will be at the Primary Campus to offer advice on how to encourage good dental hygiene. Just a reminder that Stephanie, the hairdresser will be on both Campuses this month so please contact the school office if you wish your child's hair cut.

## And Finally.....Swimming

A selection of Secondary pupils took part in Aquasplash at Crown Pools at the end of February. They had a wonderful time. A group of 12 students from across KS 3 & 4 took part in a range of different activities. The highlight of the session was when they all used the inflatable which ran the length of the pool. They were all determined to have a go but one student had a lot of fun deciding to go half way and then refusing to get off while all the lifeguards encouraged him to continue! If you child likes swimming there will be a "Disabled Persons" swimming Gala run by Lions Club at Crown Pools on 2<sup>nd</sup> April at 6.30 pm. This is open to all ages and Frances Harbour, swimming teacher from Secondary Campus will be attending. There will also be Members of the Ipswich Life Savers Club in the water with the students on a one to one basis to ensure complete safety.

If you require more information please call Eddie King 01473 461188 or Email [eddieking@btinternet.com](mailto:eddieking@btinternet.com)



