

# Bathampton Primary School

Start of Term 3 2009

Dear Parents.

I hope that you and your children had an enjoyable holiday, and feel refreshed and ready for the new term.

One of the joys of school life is that the autumn term is immediately followed by the spring term, and that there is no winter term! However.....do keep the severe weather letter handy in case of heavy snow, or poor conditions!

We welcome Richard Jones who has joined the school staff as a cleaner. He is also a professional illustrator and we hope that he will give an assembly one day on this work.

The majority of this letter is composed of reminders that are designed to ensure the children are safe, happy and successful at school. We want children to do their very best while at this important stage of their education.



## The Weather

The weather is currently very cold, and warm coats, hats, scarves and gloves are usually needed. Leaving a centrally heated house can be misleading and the children are outdoors for significant periods of time. Please ensure that these items are named.



## Television

It is desperately sad to see children dark eyed, unfocused, and unable to learn because they have not had adequate sleep after watching late evening television. The majority of children in the school need at least **10** hours sleep at night, with the oldest needing 9 or more.

Please ensure that children quickly make the adjustment to term time bedtimes.

## Learning

Teachers always value the spring as a period in which there are fewer distractions, and where the children can really focus on improving their knowledge and skills.

- Please try to ensure that your child is heard read every day. This is essential for giving your child at good start to his or her education. Once children are independent and fluent readers the emphasis needs to be on discussing plot, motivation, character and developing the skill of reading between the lines.
- It is important that children have a quiet place to do their homework if at all possible.
- Please make sure that homework if given is completed on time, and to a good standard. Teachers are always happy to clarify homework expectations and timings.
- A good breakfast will help children to concentrate and to enjoy the day.
- All children should be settled in class by 8.50 a.m. Punctuality helps children succeed in their learning.
- Holidays in term time affect learning. Learning is sequential and blocks that are missed can affect future understanding. Holidays should not be booked in term time unless it is absolutely essential. It is essential a request is received by the school at least 2 weeks in advance.
- The first Milestone certificates will be awarded this week. The standards they represent are recorded on the school website. The certificates will be awarded at intervals during the school year. Please encourage your child to hard work patiently and persistently in order to eventually achieve these standards.

We do want children to enjoy their learning and most do, and these simple disciplines make all the difference.

### Uniform

A reminder that all children should wear school uniform. No earrings please! Trousers should be tailored, socks dark or grey and long hair in plaits or bunches.

### Illness

If your child is unwell please call in before 9 o'clock on the first morning so we know that the child is safe and what is happening. A reminder that sickness must be followed by a 48 hours at home to avoid contagion.

### Water Bottles

It is good to see that the vast majority of children using their water bottles in school. Children can use the water cooler to replenish their bottles during the day.

### Safer Driving

Thanks to those parents who are started using the George Car Park and walking from there to school, and to those who have always done this.

A reminder that **double parking** and **reversing** outside the school puts children and parents safety and lives at risk.

A moment saved could lead to a lifetime of regret!



PLEASE ADD RELEVANT DIARY DATES TO YOUR 2009 CALENDER.

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Term 3 started. PGCE Trainee Teacher Ms Wakefield starts in Class Four

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> Tag Rugby starts Years 1-3

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> Art Club starts

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Music lessons and Wind Band / Football start date

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Fire Training Class Four and Orchestra start

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> Story Club starts

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Year 3 & 4 Football Tournament @ Monkton 9.30-12.30 a.m.

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> Tag Rugby Festival Y5/6 @ Corston p.m.

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Introductory visit by Lee Regan (Head of School Improvement)

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> Fun with Science Day (Forces)

### February

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Last day of term for pupils

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> INSET Day 4 Year Strategic Plan

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> INSET Day 4 Year Strategic Plan

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Children Start Term 4 Football Clubs start

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> Class Photographs

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Tag Rugby starts

### March

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> Family Assemblies

Parent /teacher interviews Week One

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Clarinet starts

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> Parent /teacher interviews Week Two

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> Dance Umbrella evening performance

### April

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> Easter Service

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> End of Term 4

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> Start of Term 5

### May

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Bank Holiday

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> End of Term 5

### June

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Start of Term 6 & Bikeability

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> (not 6<sup>th</sup> as previously recorded) KwikCricket Tournament

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Class 5 Tribal @ St Marks School

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> INSET Assessment

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> Class Three Sports Festival p.m.

### July

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Class Five to Athletics Festival @ Culverhay School

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> End of Term 6