



QUEENS PARK LOWER SCHOOL

Autumn (Second) Half Termly Newsletter
November 2008

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Welcome to the second newsletter of this term.

By now you will have received a copy of our Ofsted report.

We are absolutely delighted with our 'OUTSTANDING' status

Once again, I would like to thank you for your continued support. It is a great privilege to lead our school, but we would not have been so successful were it not for our continued team work and partnership with the community.

I thank every one for their ongoing commitment to our school as we move into an exciting future. We are not at all complacent having achieved this accolade but continue to focus on improvements as we maintain our school at the centre of our community. Shortly I will let you know of the date for our celebration and I do hope you will be able to come.

Mrs Anne McCormick

OUTSTANDING OFSTED REPORT

"This is an outstanding school. Since its last inspection, staff have continued to build very well on the good practice identified then. The Headteacher has played a key role in establishing an extremely effective team of staff and governors, ensuring continuity and stability for pupils and helping them to overcome any challenges they face. A particularly impressive feature of the provision is the way in which staff reach out to the community and welcome and include pupils from very diverse backgrounds to an outstanding degree."

INDEPENDENT LEARNING DAY

Once again this was a really successful day for the children and parents of the school.

Our focus was on Literacy and the activities were really enjoyed.

We also asked the BIG QUESTION - Do we need a Breakfast/After School Club?

We had a good response and will let you know of any decisions made soon.

SCHOOL GOVERNORS

We have been promising to feature our School Governors.

In this edition of the Newsletter learn more about Mr Fred Birkett, our Chair of Governors.

Please see inside for more information

ATTENDANCE FOR 1 September - 19 October 2008 = 93%

FRANCE 91%
GERMANY 90%
SPAIN 89%

AUSTRIA 91%
GREECE 87%
ITALY 91%

CURRENT OVERALL ATTENDANCE

93%

SWITZERLAND 92%
BELGIUM 94%
DENMARK 91%

NORWAY 93%
POLAND 94%
PORTUGAL 93%

REMEMBER - WE ARE AIMING FOR 94% THIS YEAR

DINNER MONEY INCREASE

Please be advised that the price of a paid school meal will increase by 10p from 4 November 2008

The cost of a school meal is now £1.70 per day
One week = £8.50



ECO WEEK

Monday 20 October 2008 marked the beginning of the school's eco week.

The children were set a task to build a scarecrow out of recycled materials.

Some of the scarecrows can be seen scaring the crows from allotments next to the school.

Class Germany won the scarecrow competition.

Well done to Mrs Webb and her class!



NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM TRIP

The children of Year 3 went to the Natural History Museum in London to help them with their Dinosaur and Active Planet studies.

Many thanks to those involved in helping on the day.



EID AND HARVEST ASSEMBLIES

Many thanks for all of our parents and families for the gifts of food, which were gratefully received by the Emmaeus Centre and distributed to those in need.



BEDFORD CREDIT UNION

This still takes place in school on Thursday afternoons in the school library from 3.30pm - 4.00pm.



Howeverwe need to have at least two parents who are willing to volunteer to run the Bedford Credit Union within the school. Full training will be given to those wishing to help.

If no-one is willing to apply for this position, then the facilities will be withdrawn from the school and savers will have to go into Bedford Credit Union Office in Bedford.

If you are interested, then please contact the Bedford Credit Union directly. The details are as follows:

Bedford Credit Union 6 St Paul's Square Bedford MK40 1SQ 01234 346352

UNICEF DAY FOR CHANGE

Many thanks for all those children who took part in this.

As you know, the children came to school in their own clothes.

The school raised
£104.75

WELL DONE!

TOPIC WEBS

You have received a copy of your 'Topic Web'.

This will show you what your child will be studying this term.

Please take the time to look at this carefully and discuss it with your child.

Keep it at home so that you can look at this together during this half of the autumn term.

If you are unsure about any part of the topic web, please see your child's teacher who will be pleased to advise you.

QUEENS PARK LOWER SCHOOL GARDEN

We hope that you have seen the plans within the school. They were displayed at the last Independent Learning Day.

We had lots of help from a young group of people from the Prince's Trust and we have received some contributions from various organisations.

If you have any spare watering cans that you do not need, we would love to have them, or any other equipment which you feel we could make good use of, such as small forks or trowels or any packets of seeds that you don't want!

If you are interested in helping us with this project, then please see the school office

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

MR FRED BIRKITT

Mr Birkitt was born in Lancashire. He is married to Hilary and they have two children, a daughter, who is an artist in London and a son who is training in accountancy.

Mr Birkitt was a teacher for 30 years. His teaching career began in Cheshire. He then moved to Bedford to begin work at John Bunyan Upper School, teaching French and where he was also Head of Department, Head of Sixth Form and acted as Deputy Headteacher for a while.

Mr Birkitt then went on to Redbourne School in Ampthill, and then Sharnbrook Upper School where he was Deputy Headteacher at both schools. Finally, Mr Birkitt went to Biddenham Upper School to work with the Senior Team before starting work with the Bedford Education Action Zone.

Additionally, Mr Birkitt set up the North Bedfordshire School centred Initial Teacher Training Consortium and has been a facilitator for The Pacific Institute, working with adults and young people nationwide, delivering Pacific Institute courses to the Lea Manor School in Luton, Queens Park and Goldington Green Lower School

Mr Birkitt is well-travelled, having visited many countries, such as Kenya, Thailand, America, amongst many others. He particularly enjoys visiting ancient history sites.

Mr Birkitt also has time for hobbies and enjoys walking in the countryside. He knows a lot about British wildlife. He also reads Latin, plays the guitar, enjoys fishing and jogging. He has retired from marathon running having completed the London Marathon four times!

QUEENS PARK LOWER SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

Local Education Authority

Mrs S Cole
Cllr. G Colling

School Governors

Mrs A McCormick
Mrs L Webb
Mrs Bridget Edge

Parent Governors

Mrs C Friend
Mr T Rahman
Mr M Awan
Mrs S Din

Community Governors

Mr F Birkett
Mrs J Reeves
Mr S Le Page
Mrs V Tatum Associate Member

Chair – Mr F Birkett
Vice-Chair – Mrs J Reeves



MR FRED BIRKITT - CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Thank you to all parents who have bought items of school uniform and PE Kits. The children look very smart. Please be sure to name your children's uniform and PE Kit clearly as it helps your child and the staff.

Apologies for those parents who have had to wait for PE Kits - they have been very popular. We do have a small stock of these now in school.

Thank you for your continued support.

COATS/HATS/SCARVES

As the weather gets colder, please be sure that your child is dressed in warmer clothing.

If it is cold, be sure to send them to school in a coat.



Be sure to name your childrens clothes as they so easily are lost!

PE KIT - PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE!!!!!!!

Make SURE that your child has a PE kit in school at all times.

This can be left in school from Monday to Friday.

It is very inconvenient to the teaching staff to have PE lessons disturbed by those who do not have their PE Kit in school.



BRING IT IN ON MONDAYS - EVERYONE!

ILLNESS AND ABSENCE

If you child will not be coming into school - for whatever reason - please telephone the school as early as you can on the day. Both sites have answer phones and you can leave a message.

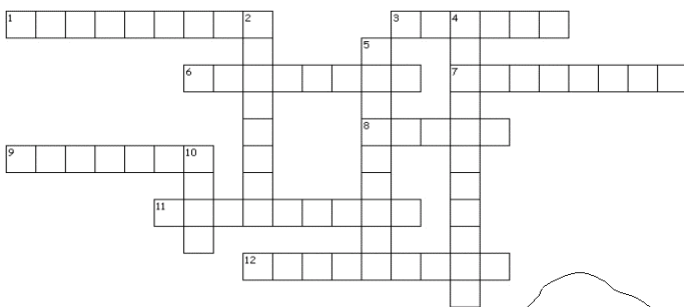
Even if your child attends our nursery can you please ring the Early Years Site to let us know as early as you can.

If your child is at Chestnut Avenue, the telephone number is 01234 352901

If your child is at Early Years (Nursery and Reception) the telephone number is 01234 261854.

Please remember that we will call you if your child is not in school and you have not let us know.

Christmas Crossword

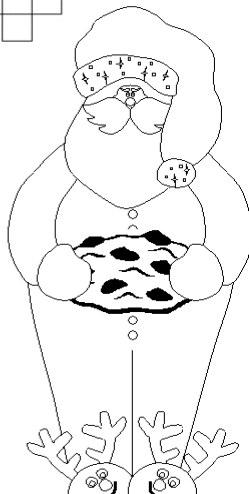


Across

1. Pretty baubles to hang on the Christmas tree.
3. Guardians who announce the good news.
6. Wrapped with love.
7. Jolly old Saint _____.
8. Dasher, dancer, prancer, vixen, _____, cupid, donner, blitzen
9. Warm snacks for Santa.
11. Sweet and red and white.
12. We wish you a merry _____.

Down

2. Keeper of the flocks.
4. House made of sweet treats.
5. The _____ were hung by the chimney with care.
10. Bright light marks the way.



Reindeer Word Search

H	T	S	R	H	I	R	B	B	D	F	D
P	E	L	E	W	E	O	L	T	R	G	L
L	M	F	I	C	L	I	R	D	M	R	A
O	O	H	N	W	T	D	A	S	H	E	R
D	C	A	D	Z	R	E	C	N	A	R	P
U	D	R	E	N	N	O	D	K	S	W	K
R	C	N	E	Y	Q	Y	C	U	P	I	D
C	C	T	R	N	E	X	I	V	C	O	L

- | | |
|---------|----------|
| Blitzen | Donner |
| Comet | Prancer |
| Cupid | reindeer |
| Dancer | Rudolph |
| Dasher | Vixen |



Class Assemblies

13 November	Denmark - Year 3 (Mr Woodward)
20 November	Italy - Year 2 (Miss Bell)
27 November	Greece - Year 2 (Mrs Dhesi)
15 January	Austria - Year 2 (Mrs Thwaites/ Mrs Colletta)
22 January	Germany - Year 1 (Mrs Webb)
29 January	France - Year 1 (Miss Begum)
5 February	Spain - Year 1 (Miss Sarwar)
12 February	Denmark - Year 3 (Mr Woodward)
26 February	Italy - Year 2 (Miss Bell)
12 March	Greece - Year 2 (Mrs Dhesi)
19 March	Austria - Year 2 (Mrs Thwaites/ Mrs Colletta)
26 March	Switzerland - Year 3 (Mrs Porter)
2 April	Belgium - Year 3 (Miss Pearson)
30 April	Germany - Year 1 (Mrs Webb)
4 June	Spain - Year 1 (Miss Sarwar)
11 June	France - Year 1 (Miss Begum/ Mrs Varma)
17 July	Year 4 - Leavers Assembly

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

12 December - Early Years Nativity Performance

16 December - KS1 Christmas Show

17 December - KS2 Christmas Show

18 December - Christingle Service – All Saints Church
(to be confirmed)

18. December - Father Christmas Visit – If not too busy!

19 December - Last Day of Term

6 January - Back to School

FAMILY LEARNING AFTERNOONS

Invitations will be sent out to the parents of children involved

Please arrive at 1.45pm for 2.00pm start

Year 1 - Tuesday 25 November

Year 2 - Thursday 13 November

Year 3 - Friday 5 December

Year 4 - Wednesday 10 December



TERM DATES FOR 2008/2009

Autumn Term 2008

Tuesday 2 September 2008 - Friday 19 December 2008

(Half Term for One Week starts Monday 27 October

but return to school on 4 November due to staff training day on Monday 3 November)

Spring Term 2009

Tuesday 6 January 2009 - Friday 3 April 2009

(Half Term for One Week starts Monday 16 February)

Summer Term 2009

Tuesday 21 April 2009 - Friday 17 July 2009

May Day Bank Holiday is Monday May 4

(Half Term for One Week starts Monday 25 May)

CHESTNUT AVENUE SITE
(LOWER SCHOOL)

01234 352901



MARLBOROUGH ROAD SITE
(EARLY YEARS)

01234 261854

www.qpls.co.uk

HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS

Germany

THE WHOLE CLASS AND

Saminul Islam
Essah Al-Imran

Greece

Oliwia Andrezjewska

Danyaal Ali
Amina Begum
Khalid Miah (2)
Rahmat Oyewo
Omar Omar
Hadeeka Hussain
Danyal Ali
Fahima Mirzai
Anisa Irshad
Ms Shumita Begum

Portugal

THE WHOLE CLASS

Austria

Ayesha Nuri (2)
Tasnim Begum (2)
Numa Siddiqah
Naima Begum
Laboni Begum

Denmark

Ilja Kirilovs
Ahsan Hussain
FAppollonia von Paris
Amina Akhtar
Erica Gomes Pereira

Switzerland

Tasnim Ali
Saad Karim
Husan Hussain
Zakir Ali
Janat Mahboob
Sameer Mahmood
Kadeja Begum
Saad Karim

Belgium

Aleem Mahmood
Amun Nar
Zonaib Ali
Patryck Wojcik
Marzuq Khan
Ajhar Hussain
Faizaan Najeeb

Norway

THE WHOLE CLASS AND

Arif Amin
Subhan Hussain
Maria Zeb
Georgina Hendrickson

Italy

Hamzah Bakhari
Raece Sarwar
Awais Zafar
Koorathulain Shahid

KID'S CORNER..... DID YOU KNOW??????



The Christmas Tree

7.6 million Christmas trees are sold each year

The tree in London's Trafalgar Square is chopped down in Norway, by the Mayor of Oslo

The 21.5m high tree needs a crane to put it up when it arrives in the UK

It's hung with 612 halogen lamps, and people sing carols around it every night



Mince Pies

More than 3,000 tonnes of Robertson's mincemeat is sold in the run-up to the 25th for mince-pies.

Christmas Turkeys
10 million turkeys are sold each year - which is a whole load of turkey soup, curry and sandwiches for lunch on Boxing Day



Sellotape

Six million rolls of Sellotape are sold in the run-up to the big day. That's 55 times the length of the River Nile



Christmas Post

In the four weeks before Christmas, two billion bits of mail will be sent