



AN ADVENTURE IN  
LEARNING TOGETHER

# QUEENS PARK LOWER SCHOOL

Autumn (Second) Half Term Newsletter  
February 2011

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Welcome back to the spring term (which is the second term of this academic year). I hope that everyone had a really enjoyable winter break and that celebrations were enjoyed with families and friends. It was lovely to have a 'White Christmas' and it felt very special with all the snow.

As a reminder, in the cold weather, please make sure that your child comes to school dressed warmly enough and be sure that your children can be seen clearly in the dark hours—reflective or light coloured clothing will ensure that your child is seen and safe.

When we arrived back at school this term we received a letter from the Secretary of State confirming that we had been given approval to become an Academy. If you would like to be reminded of what this means I would advise that the Community Consultation is still on our website—in the 'Latest News' section.

The Governing Body is now working closely with our solicitors to ensure that everything is in place for 1 April 2011 when we will convert to an Academy.

When we convert to be an Academy, the Governors are also considering change the school name to:

Queens Park Academy

This will reflect our new status, but will ensure that it is very much part of the Queens Park ward. We hope this will be attractive to parents and a source of pride for the community.

If you would like to express an opinion on the new name, please do not hesitate to let me know by contacting the school office.

Mrs Anne McCormick—Executive Headteacher

(Have a great half term everyone).

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**VISIT THE  
SCHOOL WEBSITE**

Please let us have your  
ideas or comments

[www.qpls.co.uk](http://www.qpls.co.uk)



### **CHANGE OF TRAINING DAYS**

As you will already know, there will be three training days at the end of the Easter holidays. These will be:

Tuesday 26 April  
Wednesday 27 April  
Thursday 28 April.

The Royal Wedding will be a national bank holiday on Friday 29 April  
May Day Bank Holiday is on Monday 2 May and therefore the summer term will not start until Tuesday 3 May.

**THE EXTRA LONG EASTER BREAK** may be a good opportunity for those considering a holiday abroad to do so as it is a **THREE WEEK** school holiday break.



### **BAD WEATHER/SCHOOL CLOSURE**

When snow falls across Bedford, BBC Three Counties Radio will be broadcasting school closures and extensive travel news on 95.5FM and 1161AM.

If you cannot get access to a radio, links to all the LEA school closure websites can be found at

[www.news.bbc.co.uk/local/threecounties](http://www.news.bbc.co.uk/local/threecounties)

The school will also text to let families know whether the school is open or closed due to bad weather.

This text will be sent out between 7am and 7.30am.

**BE SURE THE SCHOOL HAS YOUR MOBILE TELEPHONE NUMBER**

## **TERM DATES FOR 2011**

### **Spring Term**



The last day of the Spring Term is

**Friday 8 April 2011**

*(Half Term—Monday 21 February to Friday 25 February)*

### **Summer Term**

**(May Day Bank Holiday – Monday 2 May)**



The Summer Term begins Tuesday 3 May

The last day of the Summer Term is **Friday 22 July**  
*(Half Term—Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June)*

**THERE WILL BE NO TRAINING DAY ON 1 JULY 2011**



### **WELL DONE FOR ASIA WORLD FAMILY**

Asia won the most World Family Points last term and the children who are in Asia World Family will have a 'Bouncy Castle' event on Friday 4 February in school.

### **THANK YOU!**

The children of the school raised a

**MASSIVE £804.14**

which is fantastic!  
Well done to all the children for your hard work and to the families for your generosity.



*Zain Ali was the lucky young person to win the bear!  
(from Austria class).*

### **CHRISTINGLE CELEBRATIONS**

An impressive £39.79 was raised for the Children's Society.

The children of Queens Park Lower School really enjoyed this activity.



### **PLEASE NOTE**



**THE SCHOOL WILL NOT BE SELLING RED NOSES**

**HOWEVER, WE WILL BE HAVING A SPECIAL 'THEMED DAY' FOR THIS CHARITY ON 18 MARCH**

## **GARDENING NEWS**



In order to bring all the news from our wonderful school allotment garden, it has been decided to move this to the school's website. This has not yet been put into place but the school will let you know when this happens. When it does we will let you know so please take time to read our tips and updates on the website.

We are able to give some brief seasonal tips in this newsletter and here they are:

- Feed the wild birds each day and make sure they have fresh clean water (kitchen scraps make a good meal).
- Order all your seeds, seed potatoes and compost in good time if you want specific varieties in readiness for all your garden needs.
  - Wash out dirty plant pots in preparation for this year's seedlings.
  - Keep harvesting your leeks, cabbages, kales and brussel sprouts.
- Prepare vacant vegetable plots by digging and mulching—cover the prepared plot with black plastic to help the soil to 'warm up'.

## FIRE ALARMS AND EMERGENCIES

Recently there was a fire safety incident which occurred at around 3.30pm when some parents were either already in school collecting their children or entering the school.

On this occasion, the incident was a false alarm but

*we have to treat EVERY incident as a real emergency.*

Should such a situation occur again, and even if it is at a time when you may be either dropping off your children or collecting them, please do be patient.

*It is for the safety of your children that we ask this.*



## BREAKFAST CLUB

This club runs for families who need to bring their child/children into school early due to other commitments.

This begins at 7.45am/£1 per session. Please see the school office if you are interested.



## CHILDREN'S EYE HEALTH

Poor eyesight may have an effect on your child's ability to learn and on their behaviour and it often goes unnoticed by teachers, parents and the children themselves.

### SIGHT TESTS ARE FREE FOR CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 16

A short video explaining the benefits of early sight testing for children is available to view at [www.optometrytoday.tv/teachers](http://www.optometrytoday.tv/teachers)

## FOX AND DOG WASTE

The school often has 'unwanted' visitors within the grounds—foxes!



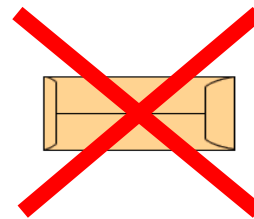
We are aware that they leave their waste behind and every effort is made to ensure that this is cleared away as soon as it is seen.

There has also been an issue with dog waste on and around the school drive and entrance and the school is aware of this too.

Please be assured that we try very hard to reduce the possibility of this happening but please understand that sometimes this is unavoidable.



## ENVELOPES FOR DINNER MONEY WE DO APOLOGISE BUT



the school WILL NOT provide envelopes for dinner money any more.

These can be purchased from the town at a very reasonable price.

Please be sure to clearly label the dinner money envelopes with your child's name and class.

## PLEASE! PLEASE! PLEASE!

Make sure that your child has their PE Kit in school every day. It disturbs the class when one child does not have a PE Kit.



## PE KITS

**SEND IT IN ON MONDAYS—TAKE IT HOME ON FRIDAYS**

## PACKED LUNCHES

Please send your child to school

**with** their packed lunch.



It is **very disruptive** and worrying for the child not to have their lunch at registration time in the morning.

If you do bring a packed lunch to the school office, please make sure that it is clearly labelled with your child's name and class.

## PARKING IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS



Please DO NOT park in the area that is designated as a turning point for heavy vehicles. (the area directly at the end of the school drive).

**IT CLEARLY STATES 'NO PARKING' AND THERE ARE DOUBLE YELLOW LINES IN THE AREA**

In the case of an emergency, such as a fire alarm, there may be no alternative but for vehicles parked in this area to be pushed out of the way.

## DINNER MONEY DEBTS

If you owe more than two week's dinner money (£18.50) to the school, your child will not be able to have a school dinner.

Until the debt is paid off IN FULL you must either provide a packed lunch or take your child home for lunch.



## CURRENT OVERALL ATTENDANCE

**REMEMBER WE ARE AIMING FOR 94% THIS YEAR**  
**and we will be monitoring this very closely**

### HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS

**YEAR 4**  
Billie Recardo  
Hafsa K Yousaf  
Keitija Skapste (2)  
Kelsee James  
Shahim Chowdhury (2)  
Quarathulain Shahid  
Esther Fisher  
Syeda Begum (2)  
Ameera Younis  
Syeda Begum  
Claudiu Szemkovics  
Thamid Ahmed  
Anika Begum  
Umera Fatima  
Nadia Abidin  
Syeda Begum

**YEAR 2**  
Zain Ali (2)  
Sabine Butane  
Shafiul Islam  
Sumayyah Uddin  
Maariya Rahaman (2)  
Kerija Skapste  
Naima Jahlan  
Aliyah Nadeem  
Jasper Kellett  
Baseer Ahmed  
Surjeev Dhillon  
Ria Bhangle  
Anisha Begum

**YEAR 4**  
Anisha Irshad  
Hadeeka Hussain (2)  
Fizah Fatima  
Shabir Ahmed  
Amina Begum  
Sehar Fatima  
Fahima Rahaman  
Rahmat Oyewo  
Tahbish Abrar

**YEAR 3**  
Ali Ali  
Sema Jan  
Kerenza Wood (4)  
Sadiyah Begum (4)  
Nooruzamen Hakim  
Luqman Ahmed (2)  
Sofia Russell  
Sana Iqbal  
Pushpa Debnath  
Taqiyah Chowdhury  
Zaynab Khalid (3)  
Amir Shiham  
Mohammed Ismail  
Khadijah Yousaf  
Andrei Lazar

**YEAR 3**  
Uzair Younis  
Hasnain Ali  
Moshadul Islam  
Jameela Islam  
Afsana Tasnim  
Amir Shiham  
Mahfuza Begum

**YEAR 1**  
Uzair Mazhar

### WORLD FAMILY POINTS AS AT 1 FEBRUARY 2011



Africa 3206



America 3621



Asia 3927



Australia 2947