

NEWSLETTER

William Gilbert Endowed School

27th March 2006

No. 309

Dear Parents

The Party in the Park IV

Thank you to everyone who supported this event and contributed to the fabulous total of £8,320.00. Congratulations once again to Nicki Allison and her team of dedicated helpers who spent a copious amount of time organising such a grand event.

New Appointments

Congratulations to Miss Hibbert who was recently appointed to the role of part time SEN Teaching Assistant working in Key Stage 2.

We look forward to welcoming Mrs H Willis and Mrs T Maskerry to join our staff team after Easter. Mrs Willis will be teaching in Red Class and also taking over the role of Coordinator for all staff and pupils in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1.

Mrs Maskerry has been appointed as a part time teaching assistant working every afternoon plus one morning. Mrs Maskerry will begin her induction period in Nursery under the supervision of Miss Stevenson, whilst Miss Taylor continues her afternoon work in Year 1 to support Mrs Willis and provide continuity for the Year 1 children.

As both new members of staff become more familiar with the children and school routines then Miss Taylor will gradually return to Nursery on a full time basis and Mrs Maskerry will become the Year 1 afternoon Teaching Assistant, whilst continuing to work in the Nursery one morning per week.

Thank You

With new appointments in place it is timely to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Ollett and Mrs Miller for the excellent care and attention to the Reception/Year 1 pupils in Red Class. There is no doubt that the children have had a stable, happy term which has enabled their learning to progress well. Mrs Ollett will still be working in school and will continue to see pupils in Red Class/Year 1 in her role as SENCO. I am sure we will see Mrs Miller again in her capacity as an excellent supply teacher.

This is also an appropriate time to thank a valued colleague, Mrs Bexon for her work as Foundation Stage/Key Stage 1 Coordinator.

She has decided to relinquish this role (hence the new appointment of Mrs Willis), in favour of literacy leadership and working in Year 2 with the Key Stage 1 SATs and transition to Key Stage 2, which is still an enormous job.

I am aware from parents who have already approached me that there is concern that Mrs Bexon is leaving or moving classes. Don't worry she has not informed any of us that she is going anywhere else so you will continue to find her in Year 2.

On behalf of the Governors and all stake holders of the school thank you Mrs Bexon for your professional approach and dedicated hard work as Foundation Stage/Key Stage 1 Coordinator. Your leadership and support has been greatly appreciated.

Changing of Staffing in Key Stage 2 – Au revoir but hopefully not goodbye!

Key Stage 2 staffing will be changing in September. Mrs Van Gulik will be leaving William Gilbert at the end of the academic year in order to study for a 2nd degree and pursue a new career. When not at University Mrs Van Gulik has the flexibility to return to school for supply cover, so we hope we will still see her from time to time.

Mrs Van Gulik's resignation is a sad loss for William Gilbert and her work and care with pupils current and now in Secondary Education is greatly acknowledged.

The Governors have already begun the recruitment process to find a suitable candidate to join the Key Stage 2 team and interviews are planned in May. Parents will be informed if we have been successful in making an appointment and what the new academic year staffing arrangements for all of Key Stage 2 will be, in due course.

School Clubs

Please note there will be no school clubs on Tuesday and Wednesday this week due to Parents Consultations. Thursday and Friday clubs are running as normal.

On Monday 24th April, the first Monday after Easter, there will be no Gymnastic Club.

Friday 31st March will be the last Dance Club until the new academic year. There are some Fridays when the school hall is unavailable next term and Mrs Smith has two holidays planned so we have jointly agreed that the lack of continuity makes it difficult for the children. This has been a super club and we hope to negotiate it restarting in September.

Polite Request

As a matter of courtesy, could parents or carers who call into school during the school day please report into the school office rather than going directly to classrooms and disrupting teaching and learning.

Spoken English Competition

Just before the half term holiday the school held its annual Spoken English Competition. Well done to all our finalists and to the rest of the school for their support and good behaviour.

Congratulations go to these pupils:-

Year 3 & 4

1st – Sonja Wilde

2nd – Iona Vaughan

3rd – Hannah Paish, Lewis Raynor, Max Raynor

Year 5 & 6

1st – Greg Sulley

2nd – Becky Wilkinson

3rd – Harry Skinner

Payment for School Dinners

Although there are only two weeks until the end of term we are still chasing over 20 outstanding payments for school lunches. If you have not already done so please forward your child's dinner money as soon as possible via your class teacher or directly to the school office. If you have any problems please see Mrs Matthews in the office.

Easter Holidays

School closes for the Easter vacation on Friday 7 April and re-opens to pupils on Monday 24 April.

I am sure I will be writing to you again before the end of term but just in case, on behalf of the staff and Governors may I wish you a happy, joyous Easter.

Yours sincerely

S J Whyld (Mrs)
Headteacher