



William Gilbert Endowed

(Church of England) *Voluntary Aided*

Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs S J Whyld



Healthy School

NEWSLETTER

19th September 2008

No. 352

Dear Parents

Another plethora of paper to read and complete – but all very important!

HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENT

Yesterday we sent home the home/school agreement for you to read and sign with your child and return to school by Friday 26th September.

ICT, INTERNET ACCESS, ELECTRONIC MEDIA & EMAIL CONSENT

Please read carefully the pupil user agreement and parent permission form and return to school by Friday 26th September.

ANNUAL CONSENT FORM

Please complete all relevant sections of the enclosed consent form. This means you are giving your consent for us to walk the children to Church and Grays Recreation Ground throughout this school year. You will be informed of further educational visits by letter where another consent will be requested.

CONSENT FORM TO USE IMAGES OR PHOTOGRAPHS

In order to record evidence as well as pleasure, we like to take photographs of the pupils and record their work on video from time to time eg, Christmas Concert. We also request a photograph from Belper News and Derby Evening Telegraph for publication of any news worthy item.

We would appreciate your support in allowing us to take photographs and video concerts and ask you to complete the consent form.

HARVEST CELEBRATIONS – FRIDAY 3rd OCTOBER, 9.30 A.M.

Our Harvest Celebration will take place in the school hall on Friday 3rd October at 9.30 am. Nursery and Reception pupils will not be joining us on this occasion but will have their own small assembly in their classroom. However, all parents are very welcome to attend the service in the hall. Our harvest gifts will support our elderly neighbours in St Alkmund's Close and Banardos.

The needs of Barnardos are specific and the following items are the products we would most appreciate you sending:

‘in date’ non perishable items i.e. any tinned or packets foods, or toiletries.

If possible we would like all pupils, Nursery to Year 5 to bring a plate, small box or basket of goods as listed above. If it is not possible to provide a plate, box or basket, single items will still be appreciated.

Year 6 pupils are asked to provide fresh fruit, vegetables, flowers, and/or non-perishable food items (in date). Year 6 will be delivering their gifts to the residents on St Alkmund's Close after the service.

Pupils should bring their gifts on Thursday 2nd October or first thing on Friday 3rd October.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

SING UP PRESENTATION

We are hoping that a member of the 'Sing Up' team will be attending our Harvest Festival to see and hear all the children engaged in singing before presenting us with our Platinum Status award.

For parents new to the school we are the only school in Derbyshire and just one of two in the whole of the East Midlands to achieve this award which recognises the outstanding quality of singing and opportunities for the children to make music together. It is the ultimate prize in the Government's £40 million investment to put singing at the heart of every Primary School in England by 2011.

PUMPKIN COMPETITION

Part of our harvest celebration is to judge the PTA Pumpkin competition. Pumpkins need to be in school the day **before** Harvest Festival on Thursday 2nd October by 9.00 a.m. Please affix name and class and deliver pumpkins to the **junior department craft area**.

A PLEA FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN THE MORNINGS

I am aware that a number of parents are calling into school between 8.40 and 8.55 to speak to teachers and taking; firstly their planning/setting up time and secondly often still talking after 8.55 a.m, when teachers should be teaching. We appreciate these first 2 weeks of transition can throw up queries or anxieties and your child's self-esteem is always of paramount importance to us. However, now routines are becoming established, I would ask parents to pass on messages in KS1 to the member of staff on duty at the gate and in KS2 to use the home/school book.

TERM DATES

The new academic year dates are listed below.

5th September 2008 – 24th October 2008
3rd November 2008 – 19th December 2008
5th January 2009 – 13th February 2009
23 February 2009 – 3rd April 2009
20th April 2009 – 22nd May 2009
1st June 2009 - 24th July 2009

A list of dates of school events is just being finalised and will be sent to you next week.

VIOLIN LESSONS – KS2 PUPILS ONLY

Please note there are three places available for violin lessons, which take place on Wednesdays. If any parent is wishing to take up the lesson for their child please write to the school office.

COMPLAINTS

I am duty bound to annually remind you of the school complaints procedure, which is available in full in the school office. In summary, day-to-day problems should be solved in conjunction with your child's class teacher. If you feel it necessary to make a complaint then in the first instance you should arrange an appointment to share your complaint with me. If after investigation and discussion you are still not satisfied then you are entitled to make your complaint in writing to the Chair of Governors, Mrs A Carmichael-Smith.

Yours sincerely

S J Whyld