



William Gilbert Endowed

(Church of England) *Voluntary Aided*

Primary School

Vicarage Lane, Duffield, Belper, Derbyshire, DE56 4EB

Telephone & Fax: 01332 840395

E-mail: enquiries@williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs S J Whyld



Healthy School



NEWSLETTER

12 February 2009

No. 360

Dear Parents

Half term is almost upon us and it barely seems 5 minutes since it was Christmas.

Thank you for your support last week during the snowy conditions. I am most grateful to Mrs Owen who was my main contact about the condition of the roads in Duffield and who has been in school to man the phone, answer machine, doors, staff and children whilst everyone else struggled along slow, icy roads to arrive safely.

Vivienne Westwood contacts William Gilbert School

Mid January, Mrs Manners in the school office, was in a state of shock having received a phone call from Vivienne Westwood's Personal Assistant, trying to trace a pupil believed to attend our school.

As the story began to unfold we discovered that Max Rayner in Y6, whose ambition is to be a couture designer had, just before Christmas, sent some of his designs to Vivienne Westwood for comment.

Miss Westwood was so impressed with Max's designs that, not only did she write to him via school, but also has invited him for 2 days work experience this half term plus attendance at her fashion show. Congratulations Max we are all in awe of your passion and talent and hope you have an enlightening, wonderful experience.

William Gilbert School at The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden

On the same day as we heard from Vivienne Westwood we also received an invitation to sing at The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London in March as a Platinum Sing Up School. Unfortunately numbers invited to sing were limited which has caused some inevitable disappointment but currently fifty children are preparing a repertoire of songs to perform. An exciting opportunity awaits!

Home School Books

Please remember to use your home school book for points of conversation regarding school. At KS2 there is no formal lost property box. Lost items are usually located in the classroom or cloakroom and if you let us know of lost items via your book we will try to find them. Please ensure everything is named as this makes it much easier to sort lost items.

Medical Conditions

If your child has any allergies that you have not informed us about please let us know along with updated contact details. Please remember headlice, threadworm and sickness and diarrhoea spread very quickly in the school environment.

If you discover your child has headlice or threadworm please ensure your child is treated before sending them back to school. Children with sickness and diarrhoea should not return to school until 48 hours after the last episode.

Dinner Money

It is the end of half term and we are still chasing unpaid dinner money. I reproduce below the policy recently approved by the Governors.

1. Parents have the option to pay for school lunches each half term or weekly.
2. A letter informing parents how much they will owe for their children's school dinners for the following half term is sent out at the end of the previous term.
3. Regular reminders are sent to parents where payment has not been received
4. It is the policy of William Gilbert Endowed School that should parents not have paid for their children's school dinners within 3 weeks of commencing each half term, school will send a reminder on the Friday of the 3rd week stating that if payment is not received by the following Monday then the school will be unable to provide a school dinner for the child and a packed lunch should be sent until payment is received.

Criteria 4 will come into operation after half term.

Five-A-Side Football

A huge thanks to all the 5-a-side footballers and their parents. Our last match of the Derby Evening Telegraph Competition is on Monday 23 February 2009 and the boys know who has been selected for this event.

Congratulations to all the twelve boys who competed in the Five-a-side competition at Alfreton Leisure Centre on Tuesday night. Team A won their league and Team B battled in every game. Thank you to all the parents and grandparents who braved the icy conditions.

A girls competition at the JJB Soccer Dome is currently being organised.

Parents Evening Advance Notice

It has been necessary to adjust the previously published dates for Parents Evening. They will take place on Tuesday 24th and Thursday 26th March. Further details to follow nearer the time.

Half Term Holiday

School closes to pupils today and re-opens at 8.40am on Monday 23rd February.

I hope you enjoy the break and that the weather warms up a little.

Best wishes.

S J Whyld
Headteacher