



William Gilbert Endowed

(Church of England) *Voluntary Aided*

Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs S J Whyld

NEWSLETTER

21 July 2009

No. 367

Dear Parents

Sports Day

Thank you to all parents who attended the rescheduled Infant Sports day and a special thank you to Mr Carter and a group of mum helpers for transporting the mats and equipment. I am sorry the change of date meant I was unable to attend.

Both the Infant & Junior Sports events have been successful and a great deal of competition, determination, athletic ability and personal challenges overcome, observed and reported.

Parental Questionnaire

Accompanying this newsletter is a parental questionnaire. I appreciate it is rather late but if you could please complete and return by Friday so that I can analyse your views over the vacation ahead of the new academic year, I would be grateful. Thank you in anticipation.

Farewell & Thank You!

We are very grateful to Mrs Miller for teaching in Red class whilst Mrs Willis has been on maternity leave. Mrs Miller has provided excellent continuity of provision and care since January and we are most appreciative of her commitment and professionalism.

Miss Hibbert leaves this school at the end of term as the children she supports are moving onto Secondary School. Miss Hibbert has secured another Teaching Assistant post and we thank her for her contribution to William Gilbert School and wish her every success and happiness for the future.

School lunches

We usually have a slightly higher uptake on packed lunches during the summer term. If you wish your child to return to school lunches in September please inform us, so the kitchen can place the correct food order.

Academic Report Feedback

I have collated all the comments on the feedback sheet to your child's annual report. 176 replies (75%) have been analysed which means we are chasing 59 replies. You will be sent a separate confirmation of receipt of your child's report if you have not returned the original.

Feedback was positive and naturally pertinent to the child. Individual worries or concerns have been passed to the next teacher and school management issues are on the Senior Leadership Team agenda.

Common trends:

26% of parents were especially pleased with their child's reading, writing, literacy skills

10% of parents commented on good maths progress.

11% of parents were pleased with their child's improved behaviour and attitude

9% of parents commented on their child's all round ability

19% of parents took the reply slip as an opportunity to say 'thank you'

Only 20% of parents would like to see some sort of grading system of which grades for effort was the most popular (11%).

16% of Parents explicitly expressed their distaste of grades for effort/attainment/ranking at Primary age.

7% of parents appreciated the amount of time taken to compile the reports and made suggestions to

We will consider these views to inform our decisions on the format of academic reports for next year. The Government have stated all reporting will be 'on line' by summer 2011 so change is on the horizon.

Uniform

Please find enclosed the uniform requirements for pupils at William Gilbert School. Please adhere to the uniform list when purchasing new uniform.

Please note culottes/shorts are not an option for girls. All pupils are asked to wear shoes, not boots. Please ensure all items are clearly named.

Prize Giving

The schools annual prize giving service will take place on Friday 24th July at 9.30 a.m.

Parents and friends of the school are warmly invited to attend, especially those of Year 6 pupils and parents contacted to inform their child is to be awarded a prize.

Message for Year 6 Parents

Prize Giving on Friday is the last formal occasion. The Junior pupils will show their appreciation to Year 6 by applauding them as they leave the premises from the usual Junior exit. Y6 parents are welcome to be on the drive/playground to take photographs.

Summer Vacation

School closes at normal time on Friday 24 July. At 3.30pm our Year 6 pupils leave William Gilbert for the last time and we wish each and everyone of them happiness and success in the next phase of their education.

School re-opens to pupils at 8.40am on Tuesday 8 September.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a very happy and hopefully sunny vacation.

Yours sincerely

S J Whyld
Headteacher