



Dear Parents

The happy industry continues at school with many projects underway in support of the children's learning.

Out and about

Educational visits to the Corinium museum, Cirencester by pupils in Key Stage 2 provided a real focus for their study of Roman Britain and the impact upon our lives today. Apart from the obvious historical value, it has been wonderful to see the Children applying a whole range of skills across the curriculum including writing diary entries for Roman soldiers, making clay pottery and designing mosaic patterns on the computer!

Year 2 pupils more than played their part in an inter school sports competition held recently at Haresfield Primary. Our hosts made us very welcome where we were joined by Year 2 pupils from Longney Primary and Whitminster C of E school in an afternoon of high activity and friendly competition. Teamwork and commitment were the key ingredients with everyone involved and giving their best. This is the first of 3 sessions organised by 'Kick Off Stroud' and we can't wait for round 2!

And in Class....

Year 6 pupils enjoyed a super morning at Rednock School as part of a series of science lectures and workshops involving a number of neighbouring schools to extend pupil's scientific knowledge. The older children also participated in a whole day 'hands on' engineering design initiative led by STEMworks (a group of consultants and former LA advisory teachers who promote design technology through problem solving tasks). KS 1 children have been fully engaged with rewriting their version of a much loved children's favourite 'Where The Wild Things Are' and using Roald Dahl's well known story, 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' as a stimulus to extend their skills.

Writing remains a whole school focus and it is a real delight to see such high quality results with children enjoying the process and taking great pride in their achievements. Our Friday morning assemblies continue to include contributions from all classes who share their fantastic writing with the whole school. I do urge you to take a look at some of the displays in the hall and around the school during the forthcoming parents evenings.

Parents consultations in term 4

A reminder that there is the opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their class teacher on 24th/25th March. A letter with further information and appointment times will be with you after the term break.

Finalists!

Following their success in the league and knockout tournaments, our senior football team have qualified for 2 finals (the Riddiford indoor Shield and the area 8-a-side outdoor competition). Both finals take place this week. A brilliant effort and good luck! Years 3 and 4 football starts shortly with a full fixture list and high hopes of emulating the achievements of their older team mates.

Our Years 5 and 6 tag rugby team will soon be in action again with an inter schools tournament scheduled for Friday 6th March. Mr Organ (parent/coach) will notify all those involved when we return after the term break.

Preparing for our day in court

As current holders of the Stroud Schools Mock Trial competition our team is currently rehearsing their scripts, researching the evidence and preparing questions which (hopefully!) will prove, beyond any doubt, that their performance in court is worthy of winning their case! This is a unique opportunity for young people to gain first hand experience of the judicial system and demonstrate their powers of persuasion under considerable scrutiny by serving magistrates. Good luck!

(continued overleaf)

Extra-curricular activities

It is good to see that lunchtime and after school clubs are proving as popular as ever with children enjoying a range of extended activities from music, dance, sport and mathematics on offer during terms 3 and 4.

Additional sports funding

This is the second year of the government's initiative to promote high quality PE and sport in primary schools. We have been fortunate to secure the services of Jason Boon (professional tennis coach) who is leading additional sessions for all Year groups. As you may be aware, Eastington offers a programme for Year 5 pupils to gain a 'Sports Leader Award'. This combines with a whole range of multi skill sessions for all ages and our own 'Learning Through Sport programme'. It is so good to see high levels of activity and supports a real focus on 'fitness to learn'. I am always encouraged when I hear that many of our youngsters are involved with physical activity beyond school, whether a member of a sports club or simply getting out and about with family and friends.

Question... 'Have you purchased your ticket for the Quiz Night?'

As you have seen from the posters outside the school, the Parents Association have planned a 'Fun Quiz Night' on Friday 27th February in the school hall. The evening includes Thai food, a licensed bar and some healthy competition! Whilst teams of 4/6 are welcome, please feel free to come along as an individual or a couple and we'll introduce you to your team mates for what always proves an enjoyable evening. Tickets are going fast so call into the school office at your earliest convenience. See you on the night!

'Welcome back'...and 'thank you'

Term 4 sees the return of Mrs Childs and Mrs Taylor following their respective maternity leaves. Mrs Childs will resume her duties as job share with Mrs Burns in Class 2 and Mrs Taylor will also be joining Class 2 as the Teaching Assistant. Both members of staff are currently liaising with Mrs Burns and have already met with the children to ensure a smooth transition for all. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Bedwell (Teaching Assistant in Class 2) for her commitment to the school as maternity cover for Mrs Taylor.

It's that time of year again

We are once again collecting Sainsbury's 'Active Kids' vouchers. Thank you to those who have already brought some in....the collection box is strategically placed in the front entrance. Thank you.

Time for an early spring clean!

A reminder that the 'Bag 2 School' collection day is this forthcoming Thursday 12th Feb. Please place all filled bags in the porch area at the front of the school before 9.00am on the day. The school receives 50p per kilo. Thank you.

Term dates for 2015/16

I have attached the 2015/16 term dates for your information.

Finally....

Term 3 concludes this forthcoming Friday (13th Feb) with **term 4 commencing on Monday 23rd Feb.**

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

M J Strang
Headteacher



'Aiming high.....Together'