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Muswell Hill Primary School

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2013/14

Newsletter No. 2

4.11.2013

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome Back!

We had a very successful start to the 2013-2014 academic year last half term. I am delighted to have met so many parents and carers at arranged 'Meet the new Headteacher' meetings, the SPA AGM and informally in the playground. It was a pleasure to share the school vision and discuss what is going well and what we will be focusing time and resources on this year.

Whilst it was a very busy half term the children have started the year incredibly well and are making sound progress. Our teachers are looking forward to meeting parents to discuss how individuals have settled on Tuesday 5th November and Wednesday 6th November.

I know that parents and carers found the Curriculum Meetings extremely informative in giving an overview of the year and seeing what our exciting curriculum looks like in each year group. I would like to thank the staff for preparing and leading these meetings and thank parents for attending and passing on information to those who were unable to attend.

Safety at Muswell Hill

As the clocks have gone back over the half term break and the evenings are drawing in earlier, I remind parents, carers and children to remain vigilant on the way to school and on the way home. If you have children who walk to and from school by themselves, please remind children to be mindful of safety at all times. As part of the curriculum, teachers will talk to children about safety awareness and we will continue to mention safety in assembly times. As a part of that curriculum, I have invited the local Community Police to lead a few assemblies this term for both Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 1 and Reception to remind the pupils how to stay safe. These assemblies will take place within the next few weeks.

Achievements

I am delighted to announce that the girls' football team from Year 5 and 6 attended and won a local Haringey tournament. This means the team will now represent



Haringey in the London Youth Games 2013/14. We are really proud of their achievement and I would like to thank Graham Atkinson and David Howes for their continued commitment to coaching the team and attending local tournaments.

Further to the girls' success, we sent a mixed team of nine children from Year 6 to the Haringey Primary Schools' High 5 Netball tournament on 23.10.13. The team did really well and finished third overall. We are really proud of the team! I am grateful to Emma Horstead for coaching the netball team and taking them to this tournament.

School Journey

Year 6 participated in School Journey to the Isle of Wight in the first half term. I would like to thank all the members of staff involved: Helen Hattersley, Jackie Myles, Mimi Jhugroo, Emma Horstead, Annette Atkinson and Darrell Gunter. The trip was a complete success. The children took part in sensory trails, abseiling, visiting local historical attractions and many, many other activities across the five days of the trip. The trip details were shared by Helen Hattersley at the Staff/Parent Association AGM on 9.10.13; this provided parents with an opportunity to see the activities that took place. The children benefitted hugely from this trip and were overwhelmingly positive about the entire experience. The school website was used to provide updates on the activities. Details can still be seen in the archived 'latest news' section on the homepage.

SPA Fireworks

Fireworks Night is on Friday 8th November at Muswell Hill Primary School. Due to limitations on numbers and tickets it is necessary to book in advance. There are details on the homepage of the school website and a letter has been issued. If you require any further information on applying for tickets please speak to a member of the office staff who will be happy to help you. The cost is £4 per ticket.

Website Reminders

The new school website has been used throughout the first half term to share news and support communication. The site has been updated regularly to ensure that this is a useful tool to support parents and carers. This half term, the school, in partnership with David Betteridge, a parent and award winning director, cinematographer and editor will be putting together a video for display on the homepage of the website. We hope that this will share the atmosphere and ethos of our school with both current and prospective parents and carers. I would like as many pupils as possible to feature in the short film. However, this will only be possible if you have completed a permission slip. I will be sending the appropriate form via email or in paper form in the next few days in preparation for filming; this

communication will contain all the details of the process. In addition, we will upload the appropriate form onto the school website.

I would like to thank David for all his work on this project.

Contact details

If you have changed your telephone number or address, please contact the school office so that we can update your details on our system.

Football Fridays

On Friday 25th October our lunchtime football competition kicked off! This is initially a competition for Year 5 and 6 pupils. However, all classes have been given a team to support and a t-shirt to wear whilst supporting. Just before half term we had a very successful first round of games. Turkey, player managed by Toby, beat Brazil, player managed by James, by a score of 4-2. The second tie saw Graham's Argentina beat Joe's Spain by a score line of 1-0. I would like to congratulate all four teams on their sportsmanship during the competition; some wonderful football skills were seen. I would also like to point out that whilst this was an unfortunate start for Brazil, they remain the favourites to win the trophy!

Lost Property

The junior yellow lost property box in the playground has been emptied as the contents were damp. This is because the box was so full of clothes, coats and even some PE kits that the lid couldn't close and the clothes became wet. The Infant box is still dry and has a few items in there.

Graham has placed all the items left, after the end of last half term, in the TRAIID clothes bin, but if you know that there is something in there then we can open up the bin and retrieve items on request. The TRAIID collection happens every month so be quick!

Key Term Dates

Key events are listed on the school website under 'calendar.'

Here are some of those key dates for this term:

- 1) Parent Consultation Evenings: 5.11.13 and 6.11.13
- 2) Fireworks Night: 8.11.13
- 3) Winter Fair: 7.12.13
- 4) Colours Christmas Production: 17.12.13
- 5) Jewels Christmas Production: 18.12.13

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- 6) Christmas Carol Concert at Muswell Hill Baptist Church: 20.12.13 at 11am
- 7) End of Term: 20.12.13
- 8) INSET Day for teachers: 6.1.13
- 9) New Term starts for children: 7.1.13

Yours Sincerely,

James Wiltshire, Headteacher

