

Templefield Lower School

Newsletter

June 3rd 2008

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the second half of the summer term. I hope you all enjoyed some relaxation and time together over the half term holiday, despite the disappointing weather. We have a busy time ahead with many key events over the next few weeks including the summer fair, sports days and the KS2 performance 'The Keymaster'.

Parents Questionnaire

Many thanks to everyone who returned the questionnaire, we received a very good return of 85. The following table outlines the response's we received. Thank you also for the range of supportive comments made at the end of the questionnaire.

	Yes	Mostly	Sometimes	No
Does your child enjoy school?	73%	23%	3%	1%
Does your child take part in extra curricular activities?	54%	2%	14%	30%
Do you feel your child makes good progress in the core subjects, Literacy, Numeracy, Science and ICT?	73%	21%	6%	
Do you feel your child has access to a wide range of curricular opportunities?	71%	23%	1%	5%
Do you feel the quality of communication between home and school is effective?	44%	51%	3%	2%
Are the arrangements for feedback on your child's progress good?	54%	33%	10%	3%
Does the curriculum motivate and engage your child?	65%	30%	5%	
Does your child feel safe in school?	87%	12%	1%	
Do you feel confident that concerns regarding your child are dealt with sensitively and effectively?	74%	19%	6%	1%
Are staff friendly and welcoming?	89%	11%		
Do pupils behave well?	43%	51%	6%	
Do children develop skills for independence?	75%	20%	5%	
Do children develop an understanding of the world around them?	74%	21%	5%	

Some key aspects which were raised included:

- Parents wishing to see Literacy and Numeracy teachers at consultation evenings
- Induction into each year group
- After school activities including care before and after school

We have already begun to look at these issues in more detail, and will inform parents of any changes to practice in the next few weeks.

Value

Our value for June is Kindness and Caring. This follows on from friendship week; and we will be exploring the different ways we can show kindness and care for others, during PSHE and assemblies.

Author Visit

This Wednesday we are being visited by the author Jack Trelawny. He has written a number of popular children's books including 'The Crystal Pool'. He will spend the morning with us giving talks to the children. Order forms for a signed copy need to be in school by Wednesday morning at the latest. Books are priced at £6.99. Many Thanks

Healthy Week

We are holding a 'Healthy Living' themed week beginning Monday 9th June. The children will participate in a range of activities during PSHE and class time focusing on healthy lifestyles and choices. We will also be hosting a dance group who will be providing workshops for the children at the beginning of the week. Later, on Thursday Freddie Fit will be in school, and once again children will attend various workshops.

Classes for September

We are currently developing school plans and preparation for the new academic year, starting in September. Part of this process includes allocating staff to classes and year groups. In the main children will remain in their current class groups, although any minor changes depending on the individual needs of children will be addressed through personal contact with those parents. The following classes will therefore be in place for September.

- Y4 Miss Smithers (Mr Grint's Y3 class) Mr Clarke (Mrs Lloyd/Mrs Davis's Y3 class)
- Y3 Mr Orr (Mr Orr will keep his current Y2 class)
Mrs Bates (Mrs Westcott's Y2 class)
- Y2 Mr Grint (Mrs Fuller's Y1 class) Mrs Westcott (Mrs Bates Y1 class)
- Y1 Teachers will be Mrs Fuller and Mrs Rowe both working 4 days each week, Mrs Willis will teach the remaining two days, on her return from maternity leave.

Parents of children in Foundation Stage will be asked to identify friendship groups for their children, as we will consider this in the compilation of the two Year 1 classes.

Foundation Stage Team remains the same as this year with Mrs Spring, Mrs Bibby and Mrs Brown supported by Mrs Hannam and Mrs Freeman.

Induction into New Year Groups

As part of our internal induction process the children will spend a day with their new class teacher on Friday 4th July. On this day Y4 children will attend Woodland for their induction day.

From Monday 9th June the current Y3 children will be taught by their teacher for the sets in mathematics. Mrs Birch's group will be taught by Miss Smithers and Mr Clarke will remain with his current group. This will enable the children to settle and begin working towards new targets, while consolidating previous learning. Mrs Birch will teach Miss Smithers current Y4 group.

We will be holding induction evenings for parents of children in Early Years (Foundation Stage-Year 1) and Y2 – Y4. We did this for the first time last July, and both sessions were very well attended, and we received very positive feedback.

Further details will be sent nearer the time, but in order to help with diary planning the dates and times are as follows:

- Monday 7th July 7pm Y2 –Y4 Induction Evening
- Tuesday 8th July 7pm Early Years (FS-Y1) Induction Evening.

As always if you have any concerns regarding your child please do not hesitate in contacting your child's class teacher in the first instance.

Yours sincerely

Lynne Birch

