

MARCHWOOD JUNIOR SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER
8th October 2010

Dear Parents,

Harvest Festival

Thank you so much for your generous donations to our Harvest Festival. The display looked great and the Waterside Food Bank was thrilled with our contribution to supporting local families in need. Many thanks also to Y3 and new parents who were invited to attend – we enjoyed your enthusiastic singing!

Meet the Teacher Evenings

I know most of you took the opportunity to meet your child's new class teacher on Monday or Tuesday. I hope you enjoyed coming into school and seeing your child's new classroom. I know our teaching staff have enjoyed meeting so many of you and starting that partnership on such a positive note.

Feedback from parents and offers of help

I have still been receiving feedback and offers of help from parents this week. I shall be sending out individual letters to parents regarding offers of help next week. As soon as the feedback about strengths and areas for improvement has finished being compiled, I shall provide an overview of ideas and suggestions from a parent's point of view!

'Me Too' Funding

The government has provided each school with a small budget to help a specific group of children. The aim of the funding is to improve well-being, raise attainment and narrow any attainment gap.

The money may be used to fund out of school activities, including sport, arts or music, for individual children whose parents may not otherwise manage to afford to pay. The strict criteria we must use to identify children who are eligible include:

- Looked After Children
- Children on Free School Meals
- Parents receiving working tax credits
- Young carers
- Families in temporary or poor accommodation
- Bereavement
- Domestic crisis
- Refugee
- Traveller and ethnic minorities
- Family breakdown
- Service families

We cannot possibly offer funding for every child who may be eligible and so will have to make judgements based on our knowledge about each child.

However, if you feel your child may be eligible for this funding and you do not think the school is currently aware of the reason why, then please leave me a short note at reception.

Photo Time!

My goodness the children looked smart on Wednesday! Mrs Luscombe was our star photographer's assistant for the afternoon and managed to get all the children in the right place at the right time to have their photograph taken – she was fantastic. Some staff were keener than others about having their photo taken. Watch out for a staff display in the entrance hall soon!

Sunbeam Competition

Thank you to everyone who voted for Alexander Atrill-Mrs Wilton's grandson. He has now made it into the top 10 (out of 25,000!). Please vote again if possible on 0901 802 0202 or www.thesun.co.uk/sunbeams - lines close at midnight on Sat 9th Oct – previous votes do not count.

School Dinners

On Monday 11th October we are introducing a system of red and green wristbands to distinguish between those children who order a vegetarian lunch (green) and those who order the meat/fish option (red). When your child orders a lunch each day, he/she will be given a wristband to wear until lunchtime. The band will be given in to the kitchen on collecting a school dinner. We hope this will aid a more efficient system. Please explain this to your child over the weekend and we will remind them on Monday morning.

Absence

A reminder that if your child is away from school due to illness, please phone the school office on the first day of absence (you can leave a message on our answerphone) and follow this up with a note on return to school if your child is away for more than one day. Thank you!

Forthcoming Events

Tonight – Year 4 sleepover.

Monday 11th October - Y2 Parents are warmly invited to our first Open Morning (9.15 – 10.30 am). If you are a year 2 parent you will see the school

on a normal working day and enjoy a tour from our proud pupils.

Thurs 14th / Fri 15th – US and LS ACE time at 2.30pm (see attached letter)

Harvest photo



Have a lovely weekend!

Best wishes

Laurie Anderson
Headteacher