

# MARCHWOOD JUNIOR SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER  
13<sup>th</sup> May 2011

**D**ear Parents,

## **Well done to Year 6!**

Well done to year 6 who completed their national tests in a calm and focused manner this week. It was lovely to see them so keen to come into school (if only for the cooked breakfast!). We are all really proud of their fantastic attitude and feel sure they have done their very best.

## **Thank you to parents!**

Thank you to the 150 parents who completed the questionnaire at the end of the spring term. I wanted to feedback now the results have been analysed. Over 90% of those who responded agreed or strongly agreed that:

- *I have opportunities to share my child's learning (99%)*
- *My child enjoys school (90%)*
- *The school keeps my child safe (99%)*
- *The school is led and managed effectively (91%)*

Thank you for your responses. It is great to get positive feedback and the things you feel we are doing well.

Below are listed the areas you were more concerned about along with what we are doing to respond:

- *The progress your child was making*
- *Your child being challenged in their learning*

We are working very hard in school to improve the quality of teaching and learning so that every child is challenged in their learning whatever their ability. We have improved the

way we plan English and Maths and have raised our expectations of the progress every child should make. We now measure children's progress regularly and we have meetings frequently to discuss individual children's progress. We are also always more than happy to meet parents if they have a concern. Our ACE times each half term are a good chance for you to look at the progress your child is making in their learning.

- *The school dealing with unacceptable behaviour*

We are reviewing our behaviour system this term to ensure that expectations are very clear to children and staff and we also have clear rewards and sanctions. We will inform you of changes later this term.

- *The school taking account of suggestions and concerns*

We are on the hunt for some parents who are willing to join a friendly parent council! A parent council is being established to offer an informal open and honest forum for discussions about school-related topics. Parents don't have to 'join' or be a member; all are welcome to attend as and when they would like to or are able to, AND, most importantly chocolate biscuits are provided! Mr Bessant and I would like to meet a small group of parents who are interested in helping improve our school to meet with us perhaps once a term. We would like the opportunity to listen to your suggestions and act on them when appropriate. Of course, if you have an individual concern about your child, you should see your child's

class teacher. We hope these meetings will prove invaluable in terms of opening up the dialogue between school and home on a less formal basis. Our first parent council meeting will be on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June from 9 – 10am. If you can spare us an hour and you are interested in chatting about any ideas, then please come along. I shall give reminders closer to the time but do put the date in your diary if you think you may be able to join in. We plan to have meetings at different times to suit the wide range of parental requirements.

### **Wedding Memories**

I hope you have taken the chance to enjoy the wedding photo display in the front reception. They are vibrant pictures of our children enjoying a wonderful day! If you would like to order any photos, please ask reception for an order form. Also available to order is a DVD of the day which is available for £3 – please complete the slip in the letter that came home earlier this week.

### **Y5 & 6 trip to Southampton**

We have been delighted with the successful Y5 & 6 trip to Southampton this week. They thoroughly enjoyed the day visit and were worn out after all the walking. It was great to hear from teachers how fantastic behaviour had been on the trip – well done children!

### **Walk to School Week**

Next week our school is supporting Walk to School Week and a letter and card from Hampshire's Road Safety Team will be coming home in book bags today. Please encourage your child to walk to school next week, whenever possible. If you usually come by car, you might even consider parking safely away from the school and walking the remaining distance. The week aims to promote the health and environmental benefits of walking to school, together with a chance to teach important road safety skills. Let's hope for sunshine all week!

### **Library – Nestle Book Tokens**

A big thank you from Mrs Seadon to everyone who has sent in Nestle Box Tops this term. We managed to collect 950 tokens, our best ever! This will enable us to buy many new and exciting books for our Library.

Please keep sending tokens in; we are also collecting Tesco and Sainsbury tokens. Thanks for your support.

Best wishes

Laurie Anderson

### **Dates for diary:**

Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Class & Year 6 photos
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Lower School ACE time 2.30 pm
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Upper School ACE time 1.45-2.45 pm
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	'Decades' Production 5 – 6 pm
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Marchwood Sponsored Event (letter to follow)
<b>Mon 30<sup>th</sup>-Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	<b>Half term holiday</b>
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Children return to School</b>