



School & Nursery Newsletter October 2009

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A Flying Start!!

All everyone's hard work over the summer has really paid off this term. The pace of life in school and nursery has begun the inevitable climb towards Christmas. The calendar of events and activities has therefore quickly filled up and we have of course also started to roll out a whole programme of activities which are open to the whole community and not just our children and parents in nursery or school.

This newsletter is also to update parents who may not currently be clients of school or nursery but are interested in some of the community, family based activities which we have now introduced or would like to get off the ground!

It has always been a firm belief of mine that a school should be con-

nected and at the heart of the community. I am really encouraged by the responses which have come in from outside school to some of our suggestions and some of the great ideas which you have put forward because you would like to be able to access them at Rivington Park.

I hope that there will be something in this newsletter to interest everyone.

You can email me direct at school on info@rivingtonparkschool.co.uk if you have any enquiries relating to the farmers market, using school facilities, the clubs and activities running out of school hours, adult learning or, in fact anything which you feel might fit in with the development of our small community project.

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First Half Term 2009—News from School



We have enjoyed a terrific start with a warm welcome for our new children in Reception, Year 6 and Year 8.

Sofia (Yr6) has taken on the responsibility for the library with Alexander (Yr6) and we have new House Captains for this school year. Angelzark—Beth Miller (Yr9), Belmont - James Collins (Yr8), and Heapey—Sam Ruaux (Yr5).

Applications for Vice Captains positions have to be in writing to the Head Teacher and should be returned to the office by the first Friday after the Half Term holiday.

Congratulations also to Adam Barlow (Yr 5) for his excellent swimming performances over the weekend. Some incredible times and 2 Bronze and 2 Silver medals as well!!

Beth Miller (Yr9) continues to train hard as one of the regions best sprinters. We wish her every success in her forthcoming season.

James Collins (Yr 8) was awarded the Blundell shield for outstanding effort this term. He also received a special commendation for excellence in mathematics.

Forthcoming Farmers Markets: Sunday 1st November and Sunday 6th December (09.00-3.00PM). No January Market.

Please pop in on the Farmers Market day. We have been having great fun and each month we have more stalls from local traders and crafts. Stalls are set up inside school for crafts, photography and of course our café in the basement dining area.

We have local producers and activities for children

also. The December Market will have a Christmas theme and I have heard rumours that some kind of grotto will materialise over the first weekend in December!

Interested in a stall? Email or ring school direct to discuss your requirements.

Christmas Performances 2009—Nursery Nativity and School Production

The 2009 Nursery Nativity

Sam is busy scheming away to devise a Christmas nativity to involve the entire nursery. We all look forward to the outcome!! We shall put on a nursery performance for our nursery parents and friends which will probably Take place in our school hall during December.

The 2009 School Xmas Production—'Cinders'

It is hard to believe the rehearsal season is virtually upon us again. Scripts have been issued to all pupils in Juniors and Secondary and the casting is complete. We have had our first read through and I am confident that there are enough twists and turns to our school version of this traditional panto-

mime to keep everyone on the edge of their seat!

As usual every pupil will be involved in the production and Reception class will have their own very special parts to play!!

I am finalising the venue arrangements which will be confirmed along with the detailed rehearsal schedule after Half Term.

Can parents encourage pupils to learn their lines over half term. It makes a big difference to rehearsal times if lines are learnt promptly. The children have been instructed to conceal the last scene of the play **from parents** so as to keep the final twists of the plot STRICTLY SECRET! We are working on a 'need to know' basis!

School Charities 2009-10

Our pupils have researched and discussed the two main charities that school and nursery would like to support for this school year. After much thoughtful consideration the secondary pupils have proposed to support Alzheimer's research and primary pupils proposed Cancer Research.

The staff have therefore adopted these two charitable causes to be the beneficiary of our charitable activities this week.

There will be one or two additional activities. For ex-

ample Poppies are now on sale in the library area. Please just leave a donation in the box and collect a poppy. We will also be repeating our very successful support of the local Rotary shoe box appeal which we do every year.

It is always difficult to decide which to support but the exercise of making a choice helps broaden the children's understanding of the issues and it is simply not fair on our very supportive parents if we pick up every programme on the calendar and expect contributions.

PTA raise over £500 by taking the High Jump!

Head Teacher Michael Ruaux and Mr Jonathon Spurr raised over £500 for PTA friends by taking a 14,000 ft jump over Morecombe Bay.

The first 10,000 ft of freefall was described by the Head Teacher as an amazingly exhilarating experience. There

are rumours that he is considering taking the course....

Well done to both volunteers. I wonder what the PTA will think up next?



New Languages Courses—Saturday and Thursday Evening

School is ready to launch a new programme of French Beginners classes for children and adults to start after Half Term.

Children aged 4-7 can join the session on Saturday morning at 09.45-10.45. Children aged 7-11 can join the session on Saturday 10.45-11.45. The cost is £3.75 per session and children book for a half term block of six classes.

Thursday Evening is Beginners French 6.00PM-7.45PM followed by a Beginners Spanish 7.45PM-9.30pm. This is aimed at adults looking to improve their conversational skills. Further details from school can be obtained via email: info@rivingtonparkschool.co.uk or 01204 669332.

We hope to add intermediate and advanced classes in due course.

