

WESSEX WEEKLY

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“Sea Life” by Khalid Omar (Y6)

This week: Y6 SATs info, how we teach reading,
lots of dates for your diary and much more.....

£800 RAISED FOR Comic Relief!! WELL DONE EVERYBODY!

SOLAR PANEL ECO TICKER:
322 KWh of Electricity Produced
183 Kg of Carbon Dioxide saved



From the Head's Chair



I haven't got quite so much space this week for my 'bit', as this edition of the Wessex Weekly is stuffed with so much information. If you don't have time to read everything, please take note of the 'Dates For Your Diary' info. on page 4 which has some important reminders.

I have been out of school for two days this week at meetings and conferences and for the first time I realised what a lucky position I am in. When Headteachers meet, the routine usually includes very close proximity to a telephone so that schools can be contacted regularly to make sure that nothing has 'happened'. I realised that I don't need to do this, as I am so confident in the children and staff that things will run smoothly in my absence. However, I have to admit that although these meetings are very useful, I don't actually like being away from school during the normal working day as I unfortunately get to miss some of the best bits. This happened on Thursday this week when I was unable to attend 4E's class assembly about the Tudors. I have been told it was a great success and that they performed superbly, even though several 'key characters' were away due to illness. Well done 4E and Mrs Elliot - I have already asked for a copy of one parent's DVD so I can see the performance in full for myself.

A reminder to parents and children. We have all worked really hard to make sure that we are all adverts for Wessex in and around the school day, and how we look is vitally important to this. As the weather warms up, shirts become un-tucked and jumpers are removed - that's fine. However, I do and will continue to expect children to check their appearance when in school to make sure they look their best when in lessons or when they're going home. I don't mind too much at play or lunch time but remember - **'Make a Good Impression...When You're in a Lesson'**.

I am looking forward to our first Family TASC day tomorrow at 10am and I look forward to welcoming you to this fun and challenging session - the first of its kind! We also have the official launch of our Solar Panels next Tuesday, so look out for a picture in next weeks Advertiser.

Have a good weekend - and Happy Mother's Day!

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Reading at Wessex

On **Tuesday 24th March 2009 at 7.30pm** we will be holding a reading information evening. The session will highlight how we teach reading at Wessex and how you can support your child at home. This will be particularly useful for parents of Reception and Nursery children, but of course everyone is welcome. We anticipate the session will last no longer than 45 minutes.



Legoland - Mothers Day Special

Legoland are running a 'Mummies go free' offer especially for Mothers Day. Mum's will need a voucher which can be obtained by logging on to one of two websites:

www.hotukdeals.com/item/356044/free-legoland-entry-for-mums-22nd-m/
www.legoland.co.uk/park/news/mummies.htm?csref=mummy. Enjoy!!

Year 6 SATs Revision

All children in Y6 have received Maths, English and Science Study Books which cover all areas needed for their SATs. If they wish to, parents can also purchase CGP Question booklets from WHSmith and other book shops to help with revision.

Units of work are put onto Tae-ca-net for children to complete. They have their own unique username and password to access this website. It is brilliant for revision in science. There are lots of other useful websites for revision, but the recommended ones are:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks2bitesize>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/4_11/

<http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/revision/>

<http://www.channel4learning.com/apps26/learning/microsites/E/essentials/general/index.shtml>

<http://www.primarygames.com/>

<http://www.counton.org/> (Maths games and activities)

<http://www.funbrain.com/>

I have included these websites in our general letter rather than a Y6 specific letter for 2 reasons. Firstly, it might be of use and interest to some children in Y4 or Y5. Secondly I thought some parents might like to take a look at what's available to our current Y6 children to help you gain a greater understanding of where we are guiding your children in the years ahead. I hope some of you find them useful and interesting.

Can You Help?

We have been offered two free tractor tyres by Knowl Hill School which would be great for our Gardening Club. The only problem is how to get them here!? If you have a suitable vehicle and can help, please let me know!

Are you, or anyone you know, able to lay bricks? I have a small and exciting project which will make a real difference to Wessex and really help to put us on the map but it requires building a small brick structure. Can you help? I look forward to hearing from you....

End of School Day

Please could we ask parents and carers of children in Upper School (Y3-6) not to wait immediately outside the classrooms when collecting children after school. It is very distracting for the children and difficult for the teacher to retain their attention when parents are waving through the windows and at this time we are trying to ensure that all letters and messages are passed out correctly. Instead, please wait in the area between Upper and Lower School where your child will come and meet you. Many thanks for your co-operation.

B4T

The Church of the Good Shepherd are holding another of their B4T events on **Saturday 21st March from 2-4pm**. Activities will include mug and t-shirt decorating. Bring along a plate of food for a shared tea after the fun.



Vouchers

Flora are running their 'Cooking with Schools' voucher scheme again and we are collecting for some lovely cooking equipment for our new kitchen area in Lower School (we would really like a smoothy maker!). If you are unable to register the tokens yourself on the Flora website please bring them in to the school office and we will register them for you.

As you know we collect vouchers from all of the various schemes. (Current count, where we have them, is in brackets): Tesco (714), Sainsburys, Maidenhead Advertiser (loads! Thank you!), Nestle Box Tops (247), Flora (we are 42nd on the leader board) and The Times Books for Schools (575). Collection boxes for all these voucher schemes are in the reception area. Please do collect for us and ask friends and neighbours if they would collect for us too.

This week's....

| TALKING HOMEWORK | THINKING SKILLS CHALLENGE |
|---|---|
| How would you go about cheering up a depressed Manchester United fan after losing 5-1 last weekend to the MIGHTY LIVERPOOL!?! | Would you rather be a pupil or a teacher and why? |

Cricket

We have been told of indoor net training sessions at St Piran's School for children in Y5/6. Sessions cost £3 per child and will be led by qualified coaches. The next session is **28th March from 2-3pm**. For more information please contact Chris Metherell on 07791 661714.

Newsletter

A reminder that this week, and every week, we will include a **very obvious** deliberate mistake somewhere in the newsletter. The first 3 correct answers pulled out of the 'Newsletter Gaffs' box in reception on Wednesday morning next week will receive a free school dinner or a free morning at Breakfast Club. Please write your name/child's name, the 'gaff' and where it appeared in the newsletter and a contact number all on any piece of paper and pop it in the 'gaff' box. Winners will be notified by phone by Wednesday lunchtime. The winners this week are Eden Harley (AGAIN!!), Harley Jones and Samantha Hibberd.

Some dates for your diary:

| DATE | OCCASION | WHO? |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| Saturday 21st March | Family TASC (Thinking Actively in Social Contexts) problem solving day. 10am - 1pm | All Wessex families |
| Tuesday 24 th March | KS1 SATs meeting - 7pm Lower School Hall KS2 SATs Meeting - 7.30pm in 6R | Parents of children in Y2 and Y6 |
| Tuesday 24 th March | Reading Information Meeting - 7.30pm Lower School Hall | All parents welcome. |
| Monday 30 th March | Parents in School Day - details on Monday | All Parents |
| Thursday 26 th March | Y1 Assembly 9.15am, Lower School Hall | Parents and carers of children in Y1 |
| Wednesday 1 st April | Y2 Assembly 9.15am, Lower School Hall | Parents and carers of children in Y2 |
| Friday 3 rd April | End of term 2pm | All |
| Monday 20 th April | Start of Summer Term for school | Rec - Y6 children |
| Wednesday 22 nd April | Start of term for existing Nursery children | Nursery |
| Monday 11 th - Friday 14 th May | KS2 SATs week - please do not book holidays at this time. | Y6 |

The Family Information Service

Information, advice and support as your children grow up

01628 507587 http://www.rbwm.gov.uk/web/parental_support.htm