

# WESSEX WEEKLY

ISSUE 21 : 27.2.2009



## Miles Weekes - PE in the Hall

**This week:**

Red Noses, special menu, spot the mistake,  
dates for your diary and much more.....

### **SOLAR PANEL ECO TICKER:**

82 KWh of Electricity Produced  
46 Kg of Carbon Dioxide saved



## From the Head's Chair



This first week back after half term has certainly flown by and I was really impressed to see so many happy faces, belonging to both parents and children, as they returned through the gate at the start of the week. I have continued to enjoy showing many prospective parents and other visitors to the school around and they often comment about the calm and positive atmosphere. This is very important as I'm sure you will understand that having your children in school, feeling happy and in an environment where learning is made both exciting and effective gives them the best possible start to their education.

Your support continues to impress and amaze me too. Just yesterday I received a lovely letter of thanks and a certificate from the Alexander Divine Children's Cancer Trust thanking us for the tremendous effort we are making to save all the plastic milk bottle tops. It seems that every time the box in the entrance hall is emptied it fills up again! I will be reading the letter to the children in assembly and the certificate has been added to our 'Good News' file in Upper School.

Congratulations too go to those children in Year 6 whose 'Mini Saga' creative writing stories will be published in a book called "***The Adventure Starts Here***". They were challenged to write a complete story in only 50 words on any theme that inspired them and winners were chosen for their perception, imagination, expression, good use of language and actually getting the whole story written within the 50 word limit. Try it...its harder than it seems! Congratulations go to: Lillie Bandarchi, Jasmine Jones, Connor Fogarty, Lois Pagden, Emma Fagence, Christopher Henderson, Rachel Beavis, Emily Hammond, Annabel Battimelli, Jordan Mole, Georgina Dwyer, Sophie Edwards, Oliver Mulley, Jessica Haines, Erin Harley, Corey Ford, Amy Deats, Katy Carter, Jaiya Chopra, Elli Beavis, Vinay Longja, Ryan Hill, Khalid Omar, Laura Freeman and Richard Russell. Wow! With all these winners from Wessex, it sounds like we might have written to whole book! It will be published on 31<sup>st</sup> May and we will make sure we have a copy for our school library. Well done children.

One or two parents in the last month have asked me whether I know of anyone who might be able to help their child to learn the piano. I have been contacted by a local piano teacher to ask if any of the children at Wessex would like to learn the piano, so please get in touch if you are interested in this opportunity. Lessons will cost £15 for 30 mins, and if enough children respond we might be able to host the lessons at school. I look forward to hearing from you.

Finally this week, you can't fail to have noticed the orange fencing which has sprung up outside the main entrance to Upper School. This represents phase two of our building plans and during the Easter holidays will be replaced by a new access road to the playground. This access is important for when we finally build our new entrance and administration block to link the existing buildings, and the positive knock-on effect will be a much wider area for parents and children at the beginning and end of the school day. We have also had an idea for how to widen the entrance gate as this is a huge bottle neck at busy times of the day, and I will be asking the Highways Agency if they can help us with this at the same time. No promises yet, but I'm on the case!

Have a good weekend.

Nick Stevens  
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## Red Nose Day – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March

Red noses are available to buy in school each breaktime and lunchtime and cost £1 each. As a school, we will be joining in the silliness on the day by having a pyjama party where children and staff will be wearing pyjamas and dressing gowns for the day!! We are asking children to bring in a donation of £1 if they wear pyjamas, and to see the staff doing something funny for money – that is performing a dance in Lower and Upper School during the afternoon!!



## An Apology...

I would like to belatedly thank all our Reception class parents for their time and contributions to our multicultural fortnight. We had some superb guest speakers and the children have really benefitted from their talks.

## Parent Support Adviser

The Cox Green Extended Schools Cluster has appointed Hayley Shortle as our new Parent Support Advisor. Hayley will be based at Cox Green School but will serve the whole of the Cox Green and surrounding schools area and can be contacted on 07554 044107. Hayley can assist families with any worries they may have including anything related to your child's education, behaviour or attendance and she can help provide support on how best to deal with it. More information is available from leaflets in the letter tree by the school office.

## Newsletter



I know that many of you anxiously await the newsletter every Friday!! However, it seems that some of our families aren't as eager to read about the fantastic things we do at Wessex, nor do some parents automatically put important dates in their diary or on the calendar (as I am sure most of you do!) so I have thought of a way to encourage every family to read the newsletter each week. From this week, and every week, we will include a very obvious deliberate mistake somewhere in the newsletter. blah blah blah. The first 4 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.

## La plume de ma tante....

Last term Y5 and Y6 children were each paired up with a pen pal from a French school in Paris. They all wrote a letter about themselves and this week children in 5C received their first letter back! The children were extremely excited about this, which was lovely to see. We are now writing back and sending photographs. The other classes are eagerly waiting for their letters.

## Vouchers

Tesco are starting their voucher scheme on **2<sup>nd</sup> March** and, as usual, we will be collecting their vouchers as well as vouchers from Sainsburys, Maidenhead Advertiser, Nestle Box Tops and The Times Books for Schools. Collecting boxes for all these voucher schemes are in the reception area. The school benefits enormously from all the various schemes so please do collect for us and ask friends and neighbours if they would collect for us too.

### For future reference....

When paying for school trips, school uniform or other school activities, (in fact anything over £5) the ladies in the office (and the ladies and gentlemen at the bank) would MUCH prefer it if payments could be made by cheque, rather than cash. Thank you for your help in this matter. Please make Cheques payable to **Wessex Primary School**.

### Family TASC Day

On **Saturday 21st March** there will be a problem solving morning taking place at school. You are all invited to come and take part in lots of problem solving activities to tackle as a family, such as constructing a container to prevent an egg from breaking when dropped from a height. The session will be from 10am until 1pm. More details will follow shortly.

### Breakfast Club

Please can I remind parents that Breakfast Club places **MUST** be booked and paid for **IN ADVANCE** in order that we can ensure that we have the required number of staff available on the day. It would be awful if we had to turn a child away because we did not have the extra adult required – thank you for your co-operation.

### St Patrick's Day Special Menu

On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March, Harrison's will be serving a special Irish menu in order to celebrate St Patrick's Day. The menu will be changed to Irish stew or Dublin Veggie Pie served with vegetables and champ potatoes. Pudding will be Apple upside down pudding and custard.



### This week's....

TALKING HOMEWORK	THINKING SKILLS CHALLENGE
Which is the best film ever and why do I like it so much?	What might happen if all money vanished overnight?

### Some dates for your diary:

DATE	OCCASION	WHO?
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Nursery Parents Meeting 7.30pm LS Hall	Nursery
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent consultations, Y1 – Y6	Parents of children in Y1 – Y6
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day	Everyone!
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	St Patrick's Day special menu	All children
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent consultations, Nursery – Y6	Parents of children in Nursery – Y6
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day – Pyjama day and other various silly activities in school.	All
Saturday 21st March	Family TASC (Thinking Actively in Social Contexts) problem solving day. 10am – 1pm	All Wessex families

#### **The Family Information Service**

Information, advice and support as your children grow up

01628 507587 [http://www.rbwm.gov.uk/web/parental\\_support.htm](http://www.rbwm.gov.uk/web/parental_support.htm)