

WESSEX WEEKLY

ISSUE 30: 15.5.2009



If I had seven oranges in one hand and eight oranges in the other,
what would I have?



Mbulelo gathering data in outdoor Maths!

This week:

Class photos, Science Week,
dates for your diary and much more.....

SOLAR PANEL ECO TICKER:
1139 KWh of Electricity Produced
649 Kg of Carbon Dioxide saved



From the Head's Chair



We had a rather special staff meeting this week which made me very proud of one of our children. As part of our curriculum enrichment programme, we are planning a 'Science Week' for the week commencing **22nd June**. All of our children will experience science at its best and we have invited a range of science experts, along with budding secondary school science students from Cox Green, to provide your children with exciting and (at times) explosive scientific experiences. This has proved a great success in the past and I am looking forward to reporting on the activities once we have enjoyed the week. These opportunities take a lot of careful planning, and as part of these plans, I was happy to welcome Gregory Ashfield in Year 5 to our staff meeting on Wednesday. Gregory has a passion for Science, and during our meeting, he demonstrated several practical experiments to all the teachers very successfully, including fire and foam, whilst at the same time showing us his talent. For a 10 year old child, leading a staff meeting and presenting their ideas is a challenging and somewhat daunting task which he fulfilled with confidence and humour. Well done Gregory – I'm very proud of you!

I would also like to congratulate every child and member of staff in Year 6. We have been completing our SATs assessments this week and a representative from RBWM popped in for a 'spot-check' on Tuesday. He was very impressed with the conduct of the children and more than satisfied with the procedures we have put in place to ensure every child is supported and completing tasks in the best possible surroundings so thank you all at this very important time of the year!

A big well done also goes to our Nursery children this week, who have enjoyed learning how to make healthy sandwiches with home grown ingredients such as lettuce from the Nursery garden. Our children have also grown their own tomato plants and these are on sale for 50p in the Nursery. Can I please remind parents to return the sponsorship forms for the sponsored sing on **22nd May** to Nursery and Reception as and when they are completed. Thank you to those of you who have already returned your generous pledges. The children are practising their songs every day with great enthusiasm and are doing amazingly well. I look forward to the children performing to parents at 11.00am and 2.45pm on **22nd May**.

I would like to thank Miss Bristow, Mrs Kashmiri and our Reception children for their wonderful chick themed assembly on Wednesday. The huge audience was overwhelmed by the confidence demonstrated by some of our youngest children, all of whom enjoyed the songs, art work and facts on show. Looking after any animal is a huge responsibility, and teaching our children about this is very important. Well done – I thoroughly enjoyed it!

Finally, I would like to wish a fond farewell to Mrs Sargent who will be leaving us next week to spend more time traveling with her family. Shirley has worked at Wessex for several years and has most recently spent her time delivering our Gifted and Talented programme in Upper School. The children have thoroughly enjoyed working with her and I know will miss her next year, but we wish her the very best and look forward to the postcards I am sure are to come! Congratulations, thank you and well done Shirley – you will be missed.

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Class Photos

On the first day back after the holiday (**Tuesday 2nd June**) we will have the Tempest photographer in to take photos of each class and Nursery group. Children are welcome to bring in hairbrushes and their biggest and best smiles on the day!



Science Week

Do any of you have a scientifically based job or expertise (e.g. engineer, vet, dentist, architect, ICT 'person', doctor, gardener, etc.)? We would love to have visitors to share their experiences with our pupils during science week (**w/c 22nd June**). If you or someone you know would be able to come in and talk to the children about what you do, please contact Mrs Maskell via the school office. Events like these contribute hugely to our children's understanding and learning so please get in touch if you can help.



School Uniform Sale

Many thanks to those parents that have brought in school uniform for our sale on **Wednesday 10th June**. We are still very happy to receive all sorts of school uniform in good condition, including PE tops and shorts, yellow polo shirts, trainers, shoes, football boots, trousers and skirts. Please bring the uniform into your child's class. Thank you.

Maidenhead Carnival

A couple of weeks ago the PTA requested names of pupils interested in taking part in the walking parade which will be part of the Maidenhead Carnival on **Saturday 14th June**. So far there hasn't been many responses which is a shame as it should be a fun event. This will be your last chance to put your name forward so if you would like to take part please leave written details with the office. Thank you.



Can You Help?

We are looking at the possibility of producing our own Wessex School planners for our pupils next academic year. The aim/purpose of the planners is to help our pupils to develop their organisational and independence skills as well as creating greater links between teachers and parents. We would like to design the planners so that they are suitable for our pupils rather than purchasing generic ones from a company. For this to be possible we need some help with the printing of these planners. If you would be able to assist us with the printing or know of someone who may be able to help please contact Mrs Helen Maskell.

School Lunch Options

The 'Grab Bags' offered by Harrisons at lunchtime are proving hugely popular with the children!! Each bag includes a wholemeal sandwich (ham salad, cheese, egg mayo or tuna mayo), crudité's, a piece of fruit and homemade cake, cookie or flapjack. The cost of the picnic lunch is the same as a hot lunch – just £2. Hot lunches are still available; the grab bags are an additional option not a replacement for the current menu.





OOPS!

A reminder that this week, and every week, we will include a **very obvious** deliberate mistake somewhere in the newsletter. Please write your name/child's name, the 'gaff' and where it appeared in the newsletter and a contact number all on a piece of paper and pop it in the 'gaff' box. The winners this week are Kirsten Franks, Rhys Higgins and Zoe Ranscombe, all of whom have won either a free school dinner or a free session at breakfast club! (Last week's Gaff was "...assessment inflammation..." in the Head's chair section by the way!)

TALKING HOMEWORK	THINKING SKILLS CHALLENGE
Who is going to win the Eurovision Song contest and why?	What might you find at the seaside which starts with the letter <u>s</u> ?

Some dates for your diary:

DATE	OCCASION	WHO?
Friday 22 nd May	Foundation Stage sponsored sing - 11am and 2.45pm, Lower School Hall 	Parents and Carers of children in Nursery and Reception
End of term	Friday 22 nd May - <u>3.20pm</u>	Everyone
Monday 1 st June	INSET day – please don't send your child to school! (unless.....see below)	All children
Monday 1 st June	Wycombe Wanderers Inset activity – separate form and payment required please	Children from Y1 – Y6
Tuesday 2 nd June	Start of term for children in school and Nursery	All children
Monday 8 th June	Y6 residential trip to Kingswood	Y6 children and staff
Monday 8 th June – Friday 12 th June	Food in Schools Week	All children
Tuesday 16 th June	Upper School spots day 	Children and parents Y3 - Y6 (Bring a doctor!)
Wednesday 17 th June	Lower School sports day	Children and parents Y1 and Y2
Monday 22 nd June – Friday 26 th June	Science Week	All children
Thursday 2 nd July	Foundation Stage sports day	Children and parents Nursery and Reception
Wednesday 8 th July	Meet the Teacher Evening – 6.30pm	All parents
Sunday 12 th July	PTA Summer Fair 2pm	Everyone
Wednesday 22 nd July	End of Term 2pm	Everyone

The Family Information Service

Information, advice and support as your children grow up

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

Big hands!!