

WESSEX WEEKLY

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www.wessexweb.org.uk – 800 ‘hits’ so far!



Where does a general keep his armies?

This week:

Headlice, Harvest, Photos, Fireworks,
LOTS of dates for your diary and much more.....

SOLAR PANEL ECO TICKER:

3253 KWh of Electricity Produced
1854 Kg of Carbon Dioxide saved



From the Head's Chair



What a week this week! We have enjoyed four (yes four!) harvest festival performances and I was astounded by both the contributions made by our children and the support from our parents and families. The theme this year was 'wear your wellies', in support of the Farm Africa charity chosen by the school council. This charity provides support for communities in Africa in practical ways, whether it be seeds, tools or expertise to help lift families out of poverty. Many of our children and teachers wore their wellies with pride and in many cases added lots of colour to the proceedings!

All of our children took part, from Nursery to Year 6, and performed in a variety of ways. We enjoyed songs (including a gospel number), drama, poetry, art work, prayers and stories in many guises and appreciative audiences were rightly proud of their children's contributions. At one point, the queue reached the length of St Adrian's Close and on to Wessex Way! I didn't think we could possibly exceed last year, but we did it and although it was a squeeze, I was proud to see that almost every child was supported in this way. Well done children, and thank you teachers for your hard work and preparation! We have raised £250 (and still counting) which will be split equally between our chosen charity and our own gardening projects. If you would still like to make a donation, its not too late.....

Beyond school, our younger children shared their performances with the local community and were extremely well received. Children from Y2 took their voices and food parcels to the 'Get Together Club' at the Community centre, who thoroughly enjoyed their visit and donated £15 to our total in thanks. Our Nursery children also visited Brill House, where their performance was warmly welcomed by the residents – a real highlight of their week.

Other news... We have had one of our pastoral parents evenings this week and the second is on Monday. I would encourage all of you to take the opportunity to find out how your child has settled in to their new class this term and what you can do to support their learning at home. Both myself and Mrs Maskell are available to answer any questions you may have about wider school issues and several of our school governors are also available to answer questions of a more strategic nature. I have been overwhelmed by the comments of support and have certainly received lots of positive comments about our website. Over 800 hits so far, and from as far and wide as New Zealand, Croatia, France and Portugal!

At long last our Community Room will be officially opened on Monday after school and is a resource to be used by you. Please see the flyer attached to this newsletter for further information.

I would like to end this week's news by thanking both Abbie and Beth (from Cox Green) who have enjoyed a week of work experience with our children and teachers to support their learning. The children have enjoyed having you in their classes and I know you have learned a great deal from the experience.

Nick Stevens
Headteacher
Tel: 01628 626724
e-mail: wessex@rbwm.org
www.wessexweb.org.uk

Congratulations!!

Debbie Richbell, our school cook last term, has had a baby girl (as yet unnamed) weighing 9lbs 13oz (ouch). Both mum and baby are doing well. Congratulations to Debbie and welcome to Baby Richbell!

Headlice

These critters are rife in school and I would urge you all to check your children's head at least twice a week. Tried and tested methods to deter head lice include fine combing with a specialized 'nit' comb and lots and lots of tea tree conditioner – it takes time but it works. Long hair should always be tied up at school. If you need to treat your child for head lice please treat the whole family – yes, even the adults!! Head lice like all sorts of hair – long, short, brown, blond, dirty and clean. You are not immune and your child could spread it through the whole class in a matter of days. Please help US to help YOU stay head lice free – check your child TODAY!!



Individual and Sibling School Photos

You should have received the photo proofs on Friday last week. Please return any orders to the school office by Wednesday 14th October. Thank you.

Starting School

Do you have a child who is born between 1st May 2005 and 31st August 2006, who is due to start statutory schooling during the school year 2010/11? If you have not already contacted the Borough you should register now for an application pack. Ring 01628 683870 or email school.admissions@rbwm.gov.uk. It is important to note that even if your child is in our Nursery or first term of Reception, they do not automatically qualify for a place at Wessex.

Yellow Moon

Orders for Yellow Moon will be sent off on Monday next week so please bring any orders in to the school office on Monday morning. We hope to have the orders back to school before the holiday.

Wessex PTA

The AGM will be held on Tuesday 13th October 2009 at 7.30 p.m. in the Lower School Hall. We are looking for new members and ideas, and we do hope that you will be able to join us. We want to put together a schedule of events that matches our children's enthusiasm for school life at Wessex. We aim to reward them for the positive attitude that they show towards learning and we do this by providing fun and enriching experiences. This can be through events that we run or purchases made with the money that we raise. Please do come along and get involved – everyone welcome!

Wessex Fireworks Night – Friday 6th November



It's that time of year again when Wessex comes to life with a dazzling 20 minute fireworks display. Tickets are the same price as last year (and for the past 7 years!) – just £3.50 for adults or £1.50 for children IF PURCHASED BEFORE THE 22nd OCTOBER!!! We are also looking for volunteer marshals on the night in order to help keep everyone safe and to help with the BBQ. In return you will receive free entry and free hot drinks. Booking forms for tickets and volunteering are being sent home with this newsletter and some spares are available from the letter tree outside the school office.

Waterproof Suits

You may have seen the rather snazzy waterproof outfits worn by our Reception class on our website. The suits have a kagool and trousers and come in size for ages 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10 and 11-12. They cost just £10 each and are available to order from the school office. Delivery will be in approximately 10 days – and judging by the weather this week could come in very useful this winter!

Chocoholics



The Chocoholics catalogues are now doing the rounds in the classes. If you want to order Halloween goodies and have not managed to get hold of a catalogue, there are some spares in the letter tree outside the school office. Halloween orders need to be in by next Friday **16th October** at the absolute latest due to the October holiday. Thank you.

TALKING HOMEWORK	THINKING SKILLS CHALLENGE
What have we all learned from parent's evening this term? Think children, parent and teacher.....	The challenge is the same as last week - what does 200P for PG in M mean? (Something to do with a very famous board game which has lots of houses and hotels). 7C of the R mean?

Missing Double Buggy

One of our carers had lost a double buggy – last seen near the bus stop opposite the shops in Wessex Way on Thursday 1st October at around 9.30am. The make is a Jane Powertwin. If you know the whereabouts of this buggy, please contact the school office. The owner desperately needs it back!

Breakfast Club

We are holding a 'bonfire night special' breakfast on 5th November with a 'hot dog' breakfast of hot sausage in a roll (the usual fare will also be available that day). Booking forms are available from the letter tree outside the school office.

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 any piece of paper and pop it in the 'gaff' box. The first three correct entries pulled from the box will win either a free school dinner or a free session at breakfast club!

Some dates for your diary:

DATE	OCCASION	WHO?
12 th October 2009	Pastoral Parent Consultations 3.30 – 6pm. Community Room Open! <small>NB No Gardening or Knitting club today!</small>	All parents
13 th October 2009	PTA AGM – wine and nibbles!!	All parents and staff.
19 th – 23 rd October	Literacy Enrichment Week	Whole school and Nursery.
21 st October 2009	Y6 trip to Katesgrove Victorian School	Y6
23 rd October 2009	Y5/6 visiting Cinema – Film Week	Y5/6
23 rd October 2009	End of term 1 – 3.20pm	Everyone!
2 nd November 2009	INSET day – please don't send your children to school	Everyone!
3 rd November 2009	Children back to school	All children
6 th November 2009	PTA Fireworks!!	Everyone!
9 th November 2009	Be a Teacher for the day! More information to follow.....	TBA
12 th November 2009	5D Class Assembly	Parents and carers of children in 5D

Up his sleeves!