

# AUTUMN TERM NEWSLETTER September 2011



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the start of a new School Year. I do hope that you managed to catch some sunshine during the break. The children have come back to school bright and sparkly with lots to tell. I love listening to all their news and stories.

Our Little Lion Cubs are settling in and before too long I am sure they will all be brimming with confidence.

A warm welcome to Miss Edwards (Year 1) and Miss Ashcroft (Year 3), both are new to our school and the children are helping them to "find their feet!"

Well another busy year is ahead of us and details can be found on the school calendar and of course there will always be things to add as the year progresses.

## SCHOOL COUNCIL

Elections for the School Council will be taking place a little later this half term. This year we will be looking to include nominations from Year 1.

Children who are interested in representing their class on the School Council give short presentations as to why classmates should vote for them!! Mr O'Sullivan and Mrs Phillips will be the members of staff leading on the School Council.

As you probably know, a joint project with the PTA is to construct a pathway around part of the school field to allow the children additional play space during the winter months. The plan is to have a variety of stopping off activity stations at various points. Initial ideas are for a "bug hotel", and a race track for "dinky" type cars. I'm sure that the School Council will come up with lots of innovative ideas. Any parents willing to help with this, maybe with ideas, expertise, time, materials, design skills, would be MOST welcome to become involved.

## PREMISES

During the school holidays the pupils' toilets have been refurbished. They look extremely colourful!! We are delighted with them and the children are pleased with them too. We expect and encourage them to take great care of these areas.



## Harvest Service



On Thursday 13th October we will be holding a Harvest Service at St Thomas' Church. It has been a number of years since we last celebrated Harvest and this is something we are looking forward to celebrating with you. Details will be sent out to you a little later in the term.

## INVITE TO LUNCH

We look forward to seeing many of the Lion Cubs' parents on Thursday 29th September. This is a lovely opportunity for you to share your child's lunchtime experience.

## COMMUNITY

Our adopted school charity is Claire House and we have been invited to take a small group of children to learn about the work of the Hospice and to experience the warm and welcoming environment that they have created. I'm sure that the children will enjoy this. They will have the opportunity to talk about their visit to other pupils in an assembly.



## PTA AGM

Parkgate Primary School PTA would like to give advance notice and invite all parents to the PTA Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 29 September 2011 at 8pm in the school hall.

They would be delighted to welcome you to a friendly and informal meeting that will review the past year and plan ahead for the current school year.

They also hope to elect a new Committee seeking nominations from anyone who would be interested in any of the following posts:

Chair

Secretary

Treasurer.

Please contact Andrew Bailey with details of nominations. We look forward to seeing you.



Childcare & Sport Education

Although it is still early days, our new After and Before school provision is working really well.

The children are enjoying the activities provided for them.

S4YC have offered to provide some additional extra curricular activities, cheerleading and dodge ball to name but two. Further details will follow.

## EXTRA CURRICULAR/ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

We offer a wide range of activities for pupils and these will begin over the next couple of weeks. Can you please ensure (as far as you can) that if your child commits to an activity that they attend all of the course sessions. This is because places are often limited. Children will be bringing home letters shortly.



## SCHOOL DINNERS

For administration purposes school dinners, including Fishy Friday, have to be pre-booked on a Monday (unless you pay on a half term basis). Payment should be sent to school each Monday in a named sealed envelope with the lunch days clearly marked. We cannot cater for meals on an ad hoc basis.

We would appreciate your co-operation in this matter. For further information contact the school office.



Class details are currently being updated with ParentMail. For parents new to our school this is one of our main forms of communication as it cuts down on lots of unnecessary papers and ensures that you receive information promptly. If you are not yet registered with ParentMail can you please complete the enclosed form or contact the school office.

## CHRISTMAS

Ah yes, I am trying to avoid the "C" word. This year we are hoping to hold our KS1 Nativity in St Thomas' Church. The title is yet to be chosen. We also plan to hold a Christingle Service for the children in school.



*I'm sure that you will find the information in teachers' newsletters helpful and interesting.*

*Please don't hesitate to contact me should you have anything you need to bring to my attention or discuss.*

Mrs MJ Downey  
Headteacher