

Old Heath Community Primary School

Newsletter June 2010

Where children learn, achieve and enjoy success

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Headteachers Comments

Earlier in the term I applied for a grant to upgrade our pre-school building. At the moment the building does look a sorry sight and in need of some tender loving care! It is a pleasure to announce that the bid was successful and over the summer holiday a grant of £66000 will transform the pre-school building. This is fantastic news for all involved and secures the life of our wonderful pre-school for many years to come.

June promises to be just as busy as May. Please ensure you put in your diary; parents' forum (10th June), 'Question of Sport' theme week assembly (18th June) and Maths Workshop (21st June). All three events will be extremely useful opportunities for you to gain a greater understanding of the school systems and help you to help your children with their learning at home.

Tag Rugby Tournament

On Wednesday 5th May 2010 a team of year 5 & 6 pupils travelled to Colchester Rugby Club to compete in a festival. All the pupils who took part in the tournament attend Miss Haines after school club and obviously the hard work put into training paid off on the day. They took part in three matches in which they beat Heathlands (3 tries to 1), lost to St Thomas More (1 try to nil) and beat North Primary (2 tries to nil). Well done to all the players involved and to Miss Haines for sharing her rugby skills and enthusiasm with these pupils.

Former Pupils Return

On Monday 10th May Neil Lodge, the current Mayor of Wivenhoe, visited our school to talk in a whole school assembly about his memories of his time at Old Heath and also his life since leaving Old Heath. In June Bobby Hunt will be joining us to share his memories of school and his outstanding football career.

If anyone reading this was a former pupil of Old Heath we would love to hear from you about your memories, no matter how recent or long ago!

Community Cohesion Club Fundraising Event

As part of our club we are sponsoring Twendane School in Kenya. Recently the children devoted their time before and after school to run a stall to raise money. We raised a total of £122.50 which will go to help children who really need it! A big thank you to everyone who supported us and an even bigger one to the Community Cohesion Club for all of their hard work.

School Website: www.oldheath.com

At present we are updating our school website. We will shortly be adding a 'hall of fame' section and 'pupils' work' area. If you have any ideas to make the site more useful for you please let us know.

Fun in the Sun

Pupils have been enjoying a wide variety of educational visits during the month of May!

-Our Community Cohesion Club visited Pizza Express to look into what a career in catering could offer them. They were also lucky enough to each make a pizza of their choice.

-Year 1 & 2 visited Colchester Zoo. During the visit the pupils looked at a wide variety of animals and the habitats they would live in.

-Early Years visited Colchester Castle Park. They enjoyed the sunshine, fed the ducks and played on the wide variety of play equipment on offer!

-Year 2 visited T.L.A. for a sports festival at which they competed in many different sporting activities.

In all visits the pupils behaved perfectly and were a real credit to the school. Well done.

'Question of Sport' theme week 14th and 18th June

Our school council have chosen 'A QUESTION OF SPORT' as the theme for the week which combines both the Football World Cup and the more general theme of sports. It will take place between 14th and 18th June, with a special assembly on Friday 18th June at 2.30pm.

Plans are well under way for the week and these include:

Monday Morning: Colchester Gladiator's Dance Troop

Monday afternoon: table tennis

Tuesday morning: Colchester Gladiators players (American Football)

Tuesday morning: fencing

Tuesday after school: girls football match v Monkwick Junior

Wednesday morning: Colchester United Ladies Team

Thursday morning: Year 1 sports festival at T.L.A.

Thursday afternoon: Year 6 Kwik Cricket Tournament at T.L.A.

Friday morning: line dancing

Friday afternoon: Special assembly at 2.30pm (ALL WELCOME)

Friday after school: boys football match v Monkwick Junior

There will be a special theme week lunchtime menu for the week; this will be sent out the first week back at school.

As well as the above activities we will hopefully be celebrating many victories by England in their group matches!

Finally, there will be a poster competition organised by Mr Turver to design the best poster including a sports pledge. Mr Turver will explain this to each class nearer the time. The winning poster will win their class a special desert on Friday lunchtime!

IF ANYONE CAN OFFER A DIFFERENT SPORTING TALENT TO ENHANCE OUR WEEK WE WOULD BE VERY GRATEFUL.

Parent Forum 10th June 2010

THE NEXT PARENT FORUM MEETING IS THURSDAY 10TH JUNE AT 11AM.

Everyone is welcome to attend

Agenda:

- Join a Read, Write, Inc lesson with older pupils (a request was made at the last Parent Forum)
- Parents views on current teaching of maths for their child/ren
- Parents views and opinions on the concept of setting pupils for maths lessons

- Upcoming maths workshop and anything that would be useful to include in it
- Community Cohesion information
- Discussion around the concept of 'what your child does when they are stuck'

'Get Set' to promote the ParaOlympics & Olympics

In the build up to the 2012 Olympic Games, Old Heath School will be working towards promoting the Para Olympics and Olympic Values. In doing so the children will learn through sports and culture about equality, courage, inspiration, friendship, respect and determination. To achieve this we will be joining the Get Set Network, a dedicated website, linking schools together and offering a wide variety of Olympic opportunities. Further information will be sent out at a later date.

Parent Governor Elections

I would like to thank all 3 candidates who stood for the parent governor elections. As I am sure you are aware Dominic Collins was elected and will represent you on the school's governing body.

Message from Dominic Collins, Parent Governor

I wanted to offer my thanks to those parents and carers who voted for me in the recent Parent Governor elections. I very much look forward to working with all parents and carers who are part of the Old Heath Community Primary School family over the coming months and years to represent your hopes and aspirations for the school. There are obviously going to be some interesting times ahead as the way schools deliver education is challenged under the new government, but I am sure we all agree that we have much to be proud of at Old Heath. If you have any issues you would like to make me aware of then please don't hesitate contacting me at dom.coll@yahoo.com, leave me a note at school reception or just grab me in the playground. My photo will be appearing soon on the wall of fame in reception in case you don't already know who I am.

Dominic

Libyan Day Celebrations

The Libyan day held on Monday 17th May was a huge success. I would personally like to thank Essex University's Libyan Society and in particular Mr Denna for all their hard work in organising the day. It was great seeing so many families enjoying the wonderful food at the end of the school day.

Maths Parent Workshop

Aim: The workshop is designed to give you ideas of fun maths games and activities for you to try at home. It will also provide you with information about how pupils learn written methods for adding, subtracting, division and multiplication.

Person running the workshop: Ian Roper (an experienced and entertaining maths expert)

Date and time: Monday 21st June from 9am-12pm.

Crèche: A crèche will be provided (please inform the school prior to the event if you need the crèche facility).

Most importantly: I would like to encourage all parent/carers to attend. It will be very informal and good fun. I have been involved with Ian before and irrelevant of

your own maths experience and memories of school he will enthuse and inspire you, I promise!!!

Lunchtime Arrangements

Now that the good weather is with us we are providing the pupils with an opportunity to play on the school field when possible. Could you please ensure that your children have with them at school every day **sun cream, hat and water bottle**. Please also ensure that all items of clothing are clearly marked with your child's name.

Sports Day

On **Tuesday 6th July** we will be holding our annual sports day. Following requests from parents, last year we modified the structure of the day to ensure as many children of all ages are as actively involved as possible. This seemed to have been a success and we will continue the same format this year:

Morning: Pre-school, Early Years, Year 1 & 2 classes will compete in a circuit of activities between **10.30 and 12.00**. Parents will join their children on the circuit and move around with them.

Lunchtime: an opportunity for parents/carers to stay and enjoy a school dinner with their children and experience the fun and excitement lunchtime provides all ages on a daily basis. Please book your dinner in the normal manner the week before the event or bring along your own packed lunch on the day.

Afternoon: Years 3-6 will compete in more traditional races based around the track from **1.30-3.00**. Parents will be seated beside the running track for these events.

Rainbow Club

Pupils at Old Heath never cease to amaze me! A fortnight ago seven Year 5 pupils asked if they could organise a club to entertain younger children at lunch time. I obviously welcomed their enthusiasm and said yes. A week later the club was advertised through many posters and was up and running. I know many of you have asked in the office about the club and I apologise for the lack of information but I never expected it to be so professionally organised and planned. Rainbow Club is now taking place at lunchtimes most days on the school field and every pupil in Early Years to Year 2 is welcome to join in. Well done and thank you to all the Year 5 pupils involved.

O.H.S.A. Request

The OHSA are requesting parent/carers who have any spare time to help with the planning of the summer Fete to be held on Saturday 19th June. They are also asking for donations for raffle prizes, offers of food or drink for the barbeque, coconuts for the shy and sponsor for the grand draw. If anyone knows of a group who can put on an arena display please let us know by contacting the school office or at oldheathschoollassociation@googlemail.com.

Saturday 19th June

SUMMER FETE: new and exciting football tournament, quad bikes, bouncy castle & Ball Pit, fairground rides, various performances, stalls, competitions and much more!!!!!!!

Thank you.

Help us with the new induction procedures for Early Years 2010

We will soon be welcoming parents and pupils to our school who are due to start in September. As all of you have already been through this process we felt it would be a good idea to ask you for help.

Was there anything you would like to have known or been informed on when joining our school?

Thank you.

Year 6 Leavers Events

To celebrate the successful journey of our current Year 6 pupils through our school we have arranged a series of events for them to enjoy and showcase their talents. All families linked to current Year 6 pupils are welcome to attend any of the following events:

Leavers Production and Party: Wednesday 21st July @ 2.30pm. The Year 6 pupils will perform their play to the school and their families. Afterwards all pupils will enjoy a bowling party together.

Leavers Service: Join us in St Barnabas Church @ 9am on Thursday 22nd July to celebrate the Year 6's last day at our school.

Pleasurewood Hills Trip: A fantastic fun filled day out to ensure a lasting memory of their time with their friends at Old Heath. The trip will take place on Friday 16th July (more details will follow shortly).

Year 5 and 6 Rounders Tournament

On Thursday 27th May a few of our year 5 and 6 children took part in a rounders tournament held at Sir Charles Lucas School. Our team worked extremely well together and learnt the rules very quickly which enabled them to get through to the play offs. Congratulations to all that took part in this event.

Thomas Lord Audley Festival

All the year 2 children recently took part in a sports festival organised by the Thomas Lord Audley School. The children participated in many events including trampolining, basket ball, football, golf and various kinds of races; a great time was had by all and many children came back to school holding their certificates.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Half term holiday: 1st – 4th June

Parent Forum: Thursday 10th June @ 11am

Year 6 Sports Festival @ T.L.A.: Thursday 10th June

St Barnabas Day Service @ St Barnabas Church: 11th June @ 9am (ALL FAMILY WELCOME)

Year 6 Crucial Crew trip: Monday 14th June

Girls' football match v Monkwick Juniors (at home): Tuesday 15th June after school

NON-UNIFORM DAY TO COLLECT ITEMS FOR THE SUMMER FETE:
Wednesday 16th June

Year 1 Sports Festival @ T.L.A.: Thursday 17th June

Year 6 Kwik Cricket Tournament @ T.L.A.: Thursday 17th June

Boys' football match v Monkwick Juniors (at home): Friday 18th June after school

NEW DATE: Theme Week 'A World of Sport' 14th -18th June

NEW DATE: Theme Week Assembly 18th June @ 2.30pm (ALL FAMILY WELCOME)

SUMMER FETE: Saturday 19th June

Parents Maths Workshop: Monday 21st June 9am – 12pm (crèche available on request)

Boys' football team tournament @ Shrub End: Tuesday 22nd June

Girls' football match v Arlesford (at home): Tuesday 22nd June

Year 5 & 6 Athletics Team Competition @ Garrison Track: Wednesday 30th June

Year 6 T.L.A. Transition Days: Thursday 1st & Friday 2nd July

Year 6 St Helena Transition Days: Thursday 8th July

St Helena Year 6 Parents Transition Meeting at 5pm

Sports Day: 6th July 10.30-12.00pm: Key Stage 1, Early Years & Pre-School. 1.30-3.00pm: Key Stage 2

Reserve Sports Day (in case of bad weather): 8th July

Reports sent home: 9th July

Clubs Finish for the term: 9th July

Early Years & Pre-school Teddy Bear Picnic: 13th July & 11am

School Swimming Team compete in Aquathon @ Leisure World: Wednesday 14th July

SOS Bus visits our school: Thursday 15th July

Year 6 Pleasurewood Hills Trip: Friday 16th July

Year 6 Leavers Assembly: 21st July @ 2pm (ALL YEAR 6 FAMILIES WELCOME)

Year 6 Leavers Party: 21st July after school

St Barnabas Church Leavers Assembly: 22nd July @ 9am (ALL FAMILY WELCOME)

Last Day of Term: 22nd July

IF YOUR CHILD IS INVOLVED IN THE SPORTS MATCHES OR TRIPS MENTIONED ABOVE THEY WILL RECEIVE A LETTER WITH FURTHER INFORMATION AND A CONSENT FORM FOR YOU TO SIGN.