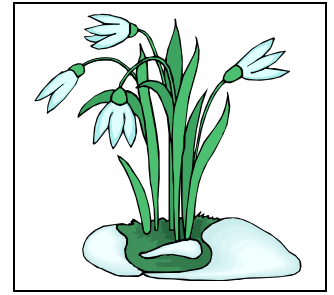




TROWSE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Spring Newsletter First Half Term – 2008/09



Half term already! Time really does fly when you are having fun!

As I approach the end of my first half term at Trowse Primary I find myself reflecting on what has happened over the last 6 weeks as well as what we aim to do in the future.

Firstly I would like to thank you. Lots of you have introduced yourselves to me on the playground and made me feel very welcome to this community. Many families have also responded positively and thoughtfully to the parental questionnaire I sent out a couple of weeks ago. The responses are overwhelmingly positive and your ideas for the school's future development have been noted. Specific feedback will follow after half term. Remember the deadline for handing them in is this Friday to be in the prize draw. (Anyone still need to hand it in?!)

A number of you replied to my request for parental input into how we should redesign the kitchen area for the children. All governors, staff and pupils were also asked. The children came up with some fabulous ideas- ideas that none of us had thought of- direct evidence that 100 heads are better than 1! The school council dealt with the collating of the children's ideas in a very mature and serious way and were a credit to the school. Both school councillors and House Captains are wearing their new badges with pride.

A new feature of the reward system for the school has been agreed and finalised. At the end of every half term, starting next half term, we will hold a '**Celebration Assembly**'. This is in *addition* to the 'Stars' Of The Week'. In the run up to the end of a half term, teachers will choose two children from their class who have been particularly special that half term. They could be chosen for many reasons including academic progress, being a really good friend, or artistic ability, to name but a few. If your child is chosen, we will write, approximately a week in advance, to invite you to the assembly to see your child presented with their special certificate. The assembly will always be on the last day of the half term, 9.00- 9.30am. I am very pleased to be doing this as an opportunity for parents to take part in celebrating children's learning. We look forward to watching the children beam with pride in front of their families.

We will also be holding a special '**European Week**'. During special weeks, the standard curriculum is put on hold and all the children focus on one idea, at their own level of course. The final details are still to be finalised by the staff, but we will be looking for opportunities during the week for parents to come in and help the children learn, or to view their learning at its conclusion. This will be in the last week of term, w/c 30th March, so the Friday could be a busy day for you in school with European week and a celebration assembly!

Class 4 are booked to go on a residential trip this summer, something that has not happened for a long time here at Trowse. I hope the uptake is high and that it is something that will become a regular feature of being in Class 4, as I know from years of experience just how much the children get out of residential visits.

Finally, after half term I will be holding, as a regular feature, '**Parent Forums**'. These will be meetings in school (although at various times), with two specific focuses. Firstly, I will take a theme per meeting to discuss with you so you can help your child learn at home. For example, I may talk to you about current mathematical calculation methods, or how to help you child stay safe on the Internet at home. The second half will be a 'question of the week', where we will hold an open discussion on one aspect of school life. For example, after a few weeks I may ask 'How can these meetings be improved further?' A Programme for the next few weeks in on the reverse of this newsletter and I hope to see many of you there.

Stuart Odell
HEAD TEACHER

Dates for your Diary

Spring Half Term Holiday – Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February

World Book day- Thursday 5th March

Parent/Teacher interviews – w/c 9th March. Lists will go up w/c 2nd March.

Red Nose Day- Friday 13th March - 'Do something funny for money' – Non School Uniform day

European Week- w/c 30th March

Easter Holidays – Monday 6th April to Friday 17th April

May Day – 4th May

Summer Half Term Holiday - Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May

End of Term – 17th July 2009

Road Safety Roadshow

The children all enjoyed Olly Day's Road Safety Roadshow today, learning some important rules about staying safe on the roads, whilst enjoying the magic tricks and fun. There is a leaflet about the show in your oldest child's book bag.

Class One will have some further road safety training with Bethany and Benjamin Bear on 3rd March, here at school.



Miss Woodard will be joining us after the half term holiday for 5 weeks, as part of her placement studies for her teaching degree. She will be working closely with Mrs Elvin and Mrs Woodcock.

Head Lice

As usual, please can everyone check, treat and check over the half term break so we can all come back nit free. Thank you.

Would you like to join a Friends of Trowse School Parent's Association?

We're looking to establish a proactive group comprised of parents/carers who will co-ordinate a range of activities such as fundraising for the school and its children, social events, second hand clothing bank, etc.

If you feel you have something to offer, or have ideas for us, please register your interest by email to Katie Murphy at katie@modusagendi.co.uk or call/text 07775585083..



FitKid Classes will be starting after half term, every Monday, after school until 4.30pm.

The classes are open to all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

Thank you to everyone who came to our taster session, but if you missed it there is still time to sign up!

If you would like more information about these classes please call Steph on 08445 606 437
Or email steph@fitkid.co.uk

Parent Forums Topics and the Big Question.

24/2/09 – 9.00am **Methods of calculation**
What would you like to do in these meetings in the future?

11/3/09 – 3.30pm **Internet Safety**
What would you like to see on the menus?

25/3/09 – 2.15pm **Governors – what do they do?**
Do you think the school allotment is a good idea? What can we do to encourage more involvement?