

Dear Parents

The last week has been a difficult one for the school community. We were very sad to hear the news that Karyn Walden lost her battle with cancer at the weekend. Steve, Karyn and Romilly had been a big part of our school community until last year when they left for Canada. I know many of you knew Karyn and our thoughts are with Steve and Romilly at this time. Jo Brigham has asked if we can have a memorial service here at school in memory of Karyn. This will be held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February from 13.30 onwards in the Language Room. Please see Jo if you would like to attend or contribute to the service.

Thank you also to everyone who has been to see us regarding the news that the school will close in August 2011. All your messages have been very supportive of the school and of the staff and I would like to thank you for your comments, chocolate cakes and support. The 'Friends' are arranging a coffee morning for all parents on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February. Details to follow.

Following the news last Tuesday, the assembly we had with the children last week was very positive. We looked forward to all the lovely things that will be happening at school over the next eighteen months and we have talked with the children about how we can make next year the best ever.

School Council are also very busy at the moment preparing for UNICEF's Day for Change which will raise money for Haiti. The School Council will give a presentation in the Golden Assembly this Friday to tell you all how you can help.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Michala Warner  
Head Teacher

**IMPORTANT!** Y1/2 class assembly will now be on 3 March at 11:40 and not on 12 March as mentioned in the last newsletter. Parents are welcome to stay for drama club if they wish.

### Clubs

All clubs will start in the coming week. We are really pleased to be able to offer such a range of activities, with something available to all Key Stage 1 & 2 children. Here is a reminder of the clubs on offer and the dates:

Clubs	
<b>Mondays: 15:15-16:00</b> <b>Year: Y1/2/3/4/5/6</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> February, 1 <sup>st</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> March.	Choir club with Brunhilde Kuijper & Jacki Donnellan
<b>Wednesdays: 12.00-12.50</b> <b>Year: Y1/2</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> February, 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> March.	Drama club with Michala Warner & Denise Sanders
<b>Wednesdays: 12.00-13.00</b> <b>Year: Y3/4</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> February, 3 <sup>rd</sup> March.	Art club with Sue Beattie & Joanna Morgan
<b>Wednesdays: 12.00-13.00</b> <b>Year: Y5/6</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> February, 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> March.	ICT club with Sjoert Fleurke
<b>Fridays: F2 &amp; Y1/2:</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Hot lunches with Helen Shorter, Jo Brigham & Nicola McGregor

Could children please bring a small snack and drink to have before each club starts. If you haven't brought your child's answer slip in yet, please do so on Monday at the latest.

Key Dates	
3 Feb.	Coffee Morning organised by the 'Friends' International Language Day meeting (11:30)
5 Feb.	Children's Quiz Night organised by the 'Friends of the Helen Sharman School' (18:00-20:00)
8 Feb.	Memorial service (13:30 in Language Room)
12 Feb.	Fundraiser for Haiti - Day for Change
17 Feb.	International Language Day at JSA
19-25 Feb.	Half term break
2 March	Parents' Forum
3 March	Year 1/2 Class Assembly (11:40-12:00)
4 March	Foundation 1/2 Class Assembly (08:35-09:00)
18 March	Year 3/4 Class Assembly (08:35-09:00)
26 March	Y5/6 Class Assembly (08:35-09:00)

## Year 1/2

Friday February 12<sup>th</sup>, our school 'Day for Change' will also bring a change in Y1/2, as Miss Poulsen will be leaving us to go on her maternity leave. She will be replaced by Heidi Fourie, who will be in school at various times over the coming two weeks to get to know the children. We welcome Heidi to the school and are excited to hear very special news from Leah in a few weeks' time.

## International Language Day

On 21st February it is International Mother Language Day. International Mother Language Day was proclaimed by UNESCO's General Conference in November 1999. The International Day has been observed every year since February 2000 to promote linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism.

We would like to celebrate it in our school too, and we are doing this on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> February. On this day, the children will be learning about the languages spoken by the families within our school, and hopefully they will be learning a few new words too! The children are welcome to wear traditional clothing on the day.

I would appreciate the help of parents to come in on that morning to share your language with the children. I will be having a meeting next Wednesday, 3 February, at 11.30 with all interested parents. If your child will be attending a club at

12.00, you are very welcome to stay until the clubs finish.

Next week we will be sending a note home reminding you of this meeting. Many thanks in advance for your support.

Sue Beattie

## Quiz Night

Next Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February, the Friends of the Helen Sharman School are hosting a family Quiz Night. The children are organising themselves into teams this week with the help of their teachers, and will soon be bringing back letters to confirm that they will be attending the quiz night with their families.

If children have brothers/sisters (maximum age 14) who are not at the school would also like to be included in a team, they are able to include them as a team member. The cost of taking part in the Quiz Night will be 1 euro per child, with all the proceeds of the evening being donated to Haiti.

The quiz will be especially designed for children of all ages, with questions that have been especially prepared by the class teachers about topics that children have been learning about in class. The teams will also have "phone a friend" cards so that they will be able to use their cards in order to ask an adult to help them with a tricky questions-mums and dads be ready to help!

We very much hope to have as many children as possible at this evening of fun and education for all the family!

Dear Parents and Pupils,

On Friday 12<sup>th</sup> of February we will be having a **"Day for Change."** This is so we can raise money for **Haiti** where the recent earthquake has struck. On this day children may come to school in free dress, with the theme being **"Change your Look"** for a day. We will also be having a **"Swap Shop"** where the children can bring in a toy, game, book, CD etc. to swap for a period of the day. To take part in these two activities we will be asking for a donation of €2.50.

All parents are very welcome to the festive opening from 8:40. Songs will be sung and the children will get to parade their costumes. We will also be putting an outline of the **map of Haiti** on the floor in the Hall, with the hope it will be filled with small change (**coins**) by the end of the day.

**Spot the Changes:** Miss Warner will be changing 10 things about herself after break. There will be a competition to guess all of the changes she has made. To take part in this competition we will be asking for a donation of 50c.

So bring lots of loose change to school to help Haiti. You can make a difference!!!!

With Thanks,  
The School Council



**Giro555**  
SAMENWERKENDE  
HULPORGANISATIES  
Den Haag



The School Council making decisions about the upcoming Fundraiser Event