



Dance Lessons

This Monday, to finish their P.E. unit of dance, KS1 and KS2 had a lesson provided by a specialist hip hop dance teacher. Malu Jansen, from Malu Dance Company, taught the children a hip hop dance which they thought was really cool! A lot of the children were very enthusiastic and wanted to have more lessons with Malu. From the age of 4 all children can go to Malu's Dance Company and have weekly lessons. For more information you can go online and visit www.maludancecompany.nl or ask Ms. Brekhof on Monday afternoons.

An Introduction to our new School Social Worker



Hello, I'm Hilko Hoekman and I am a social worker working for NoorderMaat Social Work (www.noordermaat.nl). Starting from this school year I will be the social worker at the Helen Sharman School every Monday afternoon.

Social work helps people with problems which they find difficult to solve alone, for examples in their relationship, with bereavement, financial difficulties, child-rearing, uncertainties and insecurity. You could need support with difficulties at home, your child's behaviour, concerns about your child's friendships, emotional or educational development. With a social worker you can talk about these problems, be given advice and look at possible solutions.

I have already spoken to Sue Beattie about the support which I can offer the children, parents and staff of the school. You can also talk to her if you would like to make an appointment to see me. You are also free to contact me personally at my office on 0592-343243 or by e-mail on hoekman@noordermaat.nl.

Please feel free to contact me for a talk or information!

Hilko Hoekman

Invitation to Diwali Celebration

Please come to our celebratory Golden Assembly this Friday afternoon at 14.50. We will be learning about the Indian Festival of Light called Diwali, with the help of Antarpreet Marwah. Antarpreet did this for the children last year which was a great success, and she has kindly agreed to extend this to all families this year.

Breakfast Together



On the 3rd, 4th and 5th November it will be 'National Breakfast Together Day' in Holland, and we are keen to join the fun. On these days, the children can be dropped at school, without breakfast, between 8.00 and 8.15. At 8.15 we'll go in for a healthy breakfast. On each day we will have a different theme; English breakfast, Continental breakfast and Asian breakfast.

Parent-Teacher Meetings

After the half-term break class teachers will be inviting parents to the first of our parent-teacher meetings. The meetings will be held over two weeks from Monday 2nd November to Friday 13th November. Each class teacher will contact you about appointment times.

| Key Dates | |
|------------|---|
| 16 Oct. | Diwali Golden Assembly (14.50-15.15) |
| 19-23 Oct. | Half Term Holiday |
| 28 Oct. | Friends of The Helen Sharman School meeting (18.30 start) |
| 3-5 Nov. | Breakfast at School (08.15 start) |



Harvest Festival

Thank you to Rob & Henk from the Salvation Army who came along to our Harvest assembly to talk to us about their work and about the food and clothing bank in Assen. Thank you to all children and parents who donated items which will be used to help families within Assen. We were reminded of the importance of harvest festival and were entertained by a group of mums who shared a harvest song with us.

Staff Training

Sara de Vries and Michael Keoghan will be on a COBIS (Council of British and International Schools) staff development course in Madrid on Thursday 29th and Friday 30th October. Year 3/4 will be covered by Tracey McKendrick and Year 5/6 by Heidi Fourie. Both of these supply teachers have worked with us before.

Year 1&2

After half-term we are looking forward to welcoming Mrs McClung back to school. Mrs McClung has been in school over the past two weeks and is very much looking forward to being with the children again. Thank you to Miss Poulsen who has taught the class in Mrs McClung's absence and who has provided great continuity for the children since April. Miss Poulsen will continue to teach the class on Thursdays and Fridays.



Red House Book Club

Last week you will have received catalogues from Red House Book Club. These catalogues are sent to us each term and are really helpful in getting access to books in English for your child to read. Any commission from book sales is ploughed directly back into books for school. The voucher we have from last year and any commission earned this year will be used to buy audio books for our new library listening post.

Parents' Forum

Thank you very much to all of you who were able to attend today's Parents' Forum; we very much appreciated all of your input. Minutes from the meeting will be circulated to all parents. Our next meeting will be in January and details will be sent to all parents early in the new term.

Calling All Avid Bookworms

After half term the school library will be open from 12.00-12.30 every Wednesday thanks to our Parent Librarians. So do come along children, mums and dads, as we have a great selection of books to be enjoyed by all.



Have an enjoyable half-term break!