

Happy New Year!

This is the first newsletter of 2011 and our opportunity to wish you all a happy and healthy new year. The children returned bright and fresh from their break, ready for this term's new experiences, a few of which will be outlined below. As we explained to the children last week, this new year brings lots of exciting things to look forward to. It was also Emma Weening's first week in her new school, and after her first day she wrote to us and said, "The new school was fantastic! I was really excited and I was really pleased. Happy New Year from Emma and love to everybody".

Clubs

The clubs on offer to the children last term were art club and chess club for Y4/5/6 and lunch club for Y2/3. The clubs were very well subscribed and the children clearly enjoyed the activities offered. Information about this term's clubs will be provided in a separate letter. Please see the photo below of the fantastic clay portraits sculpted by Y4/5/6, which they are rightfully very proud of.

Healthy Eating

The new snack system has begun this week, with Foundation/Y1 being provided with a daily fruit snack and all other children bringing their own healthy snack to school. Today the children in the older classes were treated to a choice of fresh fruit smoothie or freshly squeezed fruit juice,

which went down very well. The Y4/5/6 children will shortly also be offered a cookery lesson each Friday with an



Producers!



Consumer!

emphasis on putting together a balanced meal. They will make a healthy lunch each week for their classmates. Many thanks to all our volunteers who continue to make these initiatives such a success.

Visitors in School

We had a number of visitors in school last term who offered a range of enrichment activities to the children, including Irish week and Science Day. This term there will be new enrichment activities on offer to the children. Planning is underway for an International Dance Day, on March 2nd, during which children will learn dances from a number of their own nationalities and prepare a presentation for parents. We are also planning a visit from a gymnastics group from The

Clay Portraits by Y4/5/6



Hague BSN which will combine a gymnastics presentation for our children with a gym lesson from the BSN PE specialist, Gordon Finch.

Assemblies

Last term, the children very much enjoyed the assemblies led by different teachers in the school. This term, each class will provide an assembly which will be presented to children and parents during Friday Golden Assembly time.

Please put the dates in your diary: F2 & Y1 on 28th January, Y2/3 on 4th February and Y4/5/6 on 11th February.

Swimming

Swimming lessons began last week and the children made a successful start to their lessons. The lessons will continue each Thursday afternoon until the end of March.

Parents Forum

The next Parents Forum meeting will take place on Friday, 4th February at 08.30. The agenda will include further information on this term's activities. This is always a good opportunity to get together over a cup of tea or coffee to discuss school-related matters. All parents are very welcome.

School Council

As you know, the School Council have organised a social evening for Friday, 21st January. Please see the separate letter for further details. We are very lucky to have such an active School Council in school who are prepared to organise such a fun event for their friends.



Key Dates	
13 January	Swimming (F2 upwards)
21 January	School Council Social Evening (17.00-19.30)
28 January	Assembly by F2 & Y1
4 February	Assembly by Y2/3 Parents Forum
9 February	Film Year 4/5/6
11 February	Assembly by Y4/5/6
15 February	Breakfast at school
16 February	Breakfast at school
18 February	Staff Training day (school closed)
21-25 Feb.	Half Term holidays