



# Weekly Newsletter The Tweeddales

**Tweeddale Primary School**  
**Wednesday 24th October 2012**



## Attention! Half-term approaching

Dear Parents and Carers

This half-term has been a whirlwind of activity that has made a great start to 2012-2013 at Tweeddale Primary. It seems to have gone by in a flash and it is autumn once more. The children are enjoying going out to play in sunny, breezy weather, but will need their coats and black school shoes as it can be damp underfoot with puddles to jump in or avoid. Half-term brings November 5<sup>th</sup> celebrations and I hope you enjoy your fireworks. Please keep the children safe and follow the fireworks safety code if you are having fireworks in your own garden or enjoy the locally organised events.

**Harvest Festival Assemblies** - This year, you will know that each phase is holding their own Harvest Festival Assembly and you will have requested seats at your child's event. I know this is a very popular Tweeddale celebration and I look forward to seeing you there tomorrow. May I thank you in advance for your generous donations of foodstuffs. These are so welcome amongst our own community who are not so fortunate as ourselves or are elderly and living on a very low income. The children will be going out into the community this week to deliver the baskets and they really enjoy the opportunity to spend time with our local residents.

**Parent and teacher meetings** - In the two weeks after half-term, parents and carers are invited to meet with teachers to discuss their child's overall progress. These are on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November from 3:30-7:00pm and Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November from 2:15pm-5:00pm. **On Monday 12th November school will end at 2pm for all pupils.** We aim to make your meetings practical and convenient by ensuring siblings' meetings are arranged within a sensible time frame. I know that the teachers have a holistic approach to the meeting to give you a real insight into your child's progress, targets for the term and their general attitudes towards learning. I will be circulating the building and welcome the opportunity to chat to you all.

**Houses at Tweeddale** - The children are becoming really enthusiastic about their houses and the competition has begun! Mrs Roadnight has organised the weekly collection of House Points which are on display in our school hall and read out to the children in assembly each Monday. Headteacher's Awards are worth 10 house points. Mrs Roadnight is currently putting the finishing touches to the House Captains' Job Description and children can apply for this role after half-term. Some current incentives for children have been converted to house points. I thank Mrs Roadnight for pioneering this initiative as it has really captured the children's attention.

**Attendance and Punctuality** - Congratulations to everyone on starting the school year so well! Our target for this year is 95.5% attendance and last week we achieved 95.7%. That's nearly 96%!!!! This is a staggering achievement and John Gallop, our Chair of Governors, has written a letter of congratulations to the staff. The children's punctuality has also improved. When I first joined Tweeddale, 32 children were late in one day. On Monday this week, 5 children were late. This is still 5 children too many, but a massive improvement! Well done everyone.

**And Finally...** I thank the staff for all their hard work this half-term. The children's enjoyment and commitment to learning is very strong and behaviour is good. I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable half-term. This is a real opportunity to have some quality family time and make the most of those last sunny days. I'm going to spend some time tackling the garden that has been so neglected. The slugs and snails have taken a hold - but not for long! See you back at school on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November.

Best wishes Geraldine Wood, Headteacher

## Class Attendance - w/c 15 October 2012

100% Polar Bear Class  
99.0% Puffin Class  
98.9% Jaguar Class  
98.3% Badger Class  
97.9% Cheetah Class



97.7% Panda Class  
96.7% Wombat Class  
96.4% Eagle Class  
95.0% Hedgehog Class  
95.0% Monkey Class



94.0% Turtle Class  
93.9% Butterfly Class  
92.7% Kestrel Class  
92.3% Ladybird Class

### Parents drop-in sessions with the school nurse

Once a fortnight, the school nurse holds a drop-in session for parents/carers in the Round Room. If there is anything you would like to discuss with her, please go along to the Round Room after 2pm. There is no need to book. Dates for next half term are Tuesday 6 November, Tuesday 20 November, Tuesday 4 December and Tuesday 18 December.



### Dates for your diary

Thursday 25th October ..... 9:15am Reception Classes Harvest Celebration  
10:30am Middle Phase Harvest Celebration  
2:30pm Upper Phase Harvest Celebration

Friday 26th October ..... Break up for half term (at normal time)

Saturday 27th October ..... Play Centre Open Day

w/c Monday 29th October ..... Half Term (for one week)

Monday 5th November ..... Children return to school

Thursday 8th November ..... 3:30-7:00pm Pupil Progress meetings

Monday 12th November ..... 2:15-5:00pm Pupil Progress meetings **SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 2PM**


w/c Monday 12th November ..... **SCHOLASTIC** Book Fair every day after school

### Term Dates 2012-2013

These are the London Borough of Sutton term dates for the remainder of the 2012-2013 academic year along with the Tweeddale INSET days:

w/c 29th October 2012	- Half term (1 week)	Monday 15th April 2013	- INSET Day
Friday 21st December 2012	- Last day of term	Tuesday 16th April 2013	- Children return to school
Monday 7th January 2013	- Children return to school	w/c 27th May 2013	- Half term (1 week)
Friday 15th February 2013	- INSET Day	Friday 28th June 2013	- INSET Day
w/c 18th February 2013	- Half Term (1 week)	Wednesday 24th July 2013	- Last day of term
Thursday 28th March 2013	- Last day of term		

## Children's Centre Information

A full timetable of our activities can be found in the file downloads area on the Tweeddale website [www.tweeddaleprimary.sutton.sch.uk](http://www.tweeddaleprimary.sutton.sch.uk). You can also follow us on  [www.twitter.com/TweeddaleCC](http://www.twitter.com/TweeddaleCC)

Contact the Centre on 020 8404 1640 or email [tweeddalechildrenscentre@suttonlea.org](mailto:tweeddalechildrenscentre@suttonlea.org)

### Play Centre Open Day - Saturday 27th October 2012

Please note that the Play Centre Open Day that we advertised in last week's newsletter has been cancelled.

All families that had booked to attend have been invited to come along to a session when Play Centre is open.

Apologies for any inconvenience.