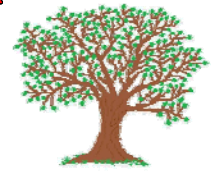




# Weekly Newsletter *The Tweeddales*

**Tweeddale Primary School**  
**Wednesday 30th January 2013**



Dear Parents and Carers

**Snow Closure** - Well at last the snow has gone and we can all get back to normal! This has been a tricky time over the last week and some difficult decisions needed to be made regarding the Tweeddales' community safety. On Friday 18th January the snow started to fall during the morning and by 12 noon it was obvious that the children needed to go home before roads became treacherous and pavements became a skating rink! At 12 noon a group call was made to all parents and carers to inform everyone that the school would be closing at 1:30pm and to collect the children from that time.

This text message prompted an immediate response and some parents arrived at school and asked to take their children before 1:30pm. We had put clear organisational procedures in place for an early closure and the earlier collection of children created many disruptions to classes and children's learning. We have all learnt from the experience and I will be creating a school closure procedure for parents and carers to follow. This will be on our school website and also sent home to accompany next week's newsletter. I would welcome any parents and carers comments before the final procedure is agreed.

**Thanks to David Higgs and Michelle Ellis** - May I also congratulate everyone on checking the Sutton website when the school was closed last Monday. This decision was made as Tweeddale Road and the pavement leading up to school had not been salted or gritted and was extremely dangerous. I thank David and Michelle for all their hard work to make the access road to our school safe by Tuesday.

**Badger Class Assembly** - What a fabulous class assembly last Thursday! Badger class gave us a "Master Class" on how to put together words, phrases and beautifully descriptive sentences to create a well known fairytale. They performed with confidence and put together choral speaking, art, music, drama, research and teamwork to entertain and inform us all. Well done Badgers, Miss Turton and her support staff. Parents and carers showed their enthusiasm with their loud applause and their comments in our Visitors Book.

**Letter from Ofsted** - Please note the letter from Ofsted accompanying this newsletter. Ofsted have looked at key elements that inform them of school's progress and found that due to our "school's performance being sustained" our next full inspection has been deferred. This means our next full inspection will not be any earlier than summer 2014. This is a huge vote of confidence in our school and I congratulate all the staff and children for our continued progress last year.

**Toys in school** - Children are very keen to bring their toys into school and this has created problems with children swapping or losing toys and toys getting broken. Please can I urge children to leave their toys at home and to play with school resources in the playground. There will be particular days when children may be asked to show their toys at school or even prepare a talk about them, but this is to be a treat, not for every day.

**Attendance and Punctuality** - Attendance is a little down on last week with 93.9% achieved. This is below our target and fewer classes have achieved 95.5%. Parents and carers are still requesting holidays during term time and in most cases, these will not be authorised. May I also remind parents that they need to collect their children at 3:20pm (3:10pm for Reception classes) as it can be distressing for children to be unsure when they might be collected.

Best wishes Geraldine Wood, Headteacher

### Class Attendance - w/c 21 January 2013

99.2% Panda Class  
99.1% Monkey Class  
98.3% Hedgehog Class  
96.1% Jaguar Class  
95.8% Puffin Class



95.7% Polar Bear Class  
95.7% Badger Class  
95.0% Cheetah Class  
94.6% Turtle Class  
94.3% Kestrel Class



90.9% Wombat Class  
87.5% Ladybird Class  
87.5% Eagle Class  
83.9% Butterfly 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. The dates for this term are  
Tuesday 12th February, Tuesday 5th March and Tuesday 19th March.

### Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

Today, Sainsbury's will start to issue their 'Active Kids' vouchers. The school will be collecting these vouchers again, so if you get any (from Sainsbury stores, petrol stations or grocery on line) please bring them into school so that we can exchange them for resources for the children. *Thank you.*



### Dates for your diary

Thursday 31st January .....9:00am Kestrel Class Assembly to parents/carers  
Wednesday 13th February .....Year 6 trip to HMS Belfast  
Thursday 14th February .....Children break up at normal time for half term (1 week)  
Friday 15th February .....INSET day - School and Children's Centre closed  
w/c 18th February .....Half term  
Monday 25th February.....Children return to school at normal time

### 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:

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

### ZIG-ZAG ROAD MARKINGS OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL AND CHILDREN'S CENTRE

I would like to remind parents/carers that they should not be parking or dropping off their children on the zig-zag lines outside the school or Children's Centre entrances. They are there for the children's safety. Please note that the times that the restrictions for parking or stopping on these lines has changed. Please check the signs on the posts by the zig-zags for details of the restrictions which are now being enforced. Please also remember not to let your children out of the car at the speed bump as this is stepping into oncoming traffic which is very dangerous.

### 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)

#### **Mini Movers for children under 2**

**On Thursday's 9.30-10.00am**

Designed for children under 2 years old, your child can enjoy singing, movement, actions and props to help bring music to life.

#### **Story and Music Time for children over 2**

**On Thursday's 10:15-11.00am**

Designed for children over 2 years old, the session begins with a story which then leads into a music session with singing, movement, action and props.