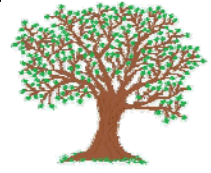




Weekly Newsletter The Tweeddales

Tweeddale Primary School
Thursday 4th October 2012



We are already into October, the trees are starting to look a little more autumnal and the nights are drawing in. We are now fully functioning in all our classes with Nursery and Reception children in school and starting their lifelong learning journey, gaining skills that will be important to them their whole lives. We aim that all children will develop interested and enquiring minds that will ensure they always want to know why and where and what if.....

Black History Week - This week, the whole school is focusing on people who have made an impact on the way we live or have accomplished great things in our life time or in history. Black History is a very positive strategy that ensures that our history includes people of all faiths, cultures and nationalities and re-visits history as it really was. The children will be sharing their research in a whole school assembly and there will be a display in the bottom corridor soon. I thank Mrs Pettis for leading and organising this really interesting topic and look forward to seeing the children's work.

Parent Teachers and Friends Association (PTFA) - This term, there is an opportunity for parents and carers to join the PTFA and really get to know other parents and help raise some funds for our school. If you would like to help shape the PTFA, you may wish to volunteer to become Chair and this could be a shared job. There will be an **Annual General Meeting of the PTFA on Tuesday 23rd October at 3.30pm in the school hall.** A crèche and refreshments will be provided. Please come along and get involved in helping to resource the school.

Macmillan Coffee Morning - Last week, Sue Wright and a group of very generous mothers and carers, brewed some tea and coffee, made some delicious cakes and sold them to raise money for the Macmillan Foundation. This is a national coffee morning and helps to raise funds for cancer research and care. Sue and her friends raised **£149.60 at school and at the Children's Centre.** I thank Sue and her friends and to everyone who popped into the hall at the beginning of the day and made a donation. A very worthy cause. Congratulations everyone!

Smart School Uniform - The children are really beginning to take more pride in their appearance, tucking their shirts in, wearing the school uniform and making sure they look smart. I thank you all for your help. May I remind parents and carers that the school uniform requires children to wear black school shoes, **not trainers to school.**

Trainers are for playtimes and PE time only. We have talked in assembly about taking pride in the school colours and following the school rule. Please ensure your child has black shoes to wear as well as trainers.

Parent/Carer Workshops - During the last 2 weeks, we have held Parent and Carers' workshops to help your children with mathematics and reading. There was a fantastic response for mathematics with over 50 attending, not so many for reading. Mrs Ridout and Miss Evans are very keen that as many parents as possible have an understanding of how these vital skills are taught. Please look out for more workshops. The parents and carers that attended were very enthusiastic and felt the workshops really helped them to help their children one quote from our visitors book was "very useful, lots of little tips that I'm sure will help us a great deal".

Attendance and Punctuality - This year, we are raising our Attendance target to 95.5%. This is 1.5% more than last year. I am confident that we can achieve this target and higher, with our new policy ensuring that children are not withdrawn from school for holidays. We were at 95.5% at the beginning of the summer term and this was only lowered by children going on holiday. Please refer to your copy of the Attendance Policy and ask for a copy at the office if you need another copy. Congratulations to the seven classes that have achieved this target or higher last week. I congratulate parents and carers for the massive improvement in collecting your children on time. This improvement in punctuality must also be achieved at the beginning of the day to ensure children are in the classroom on time.

Our Tweeddale House Names - You will remember that last week, the children were asked to vote for their favourite Olympic athlete to name each house and bring their Olympic values to our school houses. The children were told the results in assembly on Monday, to great excitement, and we will begin to collect House Points in lots of ways. Look out for more details this term. I thank Mrs Roadnight for leading this initiative and giving children an opportunity to work and play with children of all ages across our school.

Green - Sir Chris Hoy

Red - David Weir

Yellow - Victoria Pendleton

Blue - Mo Farah

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 this half term are Tuesday 9th October and Tuesday 23rd October.




Dates for your diary

Friday 5th October Jeans for Genes day
Monday 8th October School photographer to take individual pupil photographs
Tuesday 9th October 9:05am Reception class parents/carers to "meet the teacher"
Wednesday 10th October Year 4 trip to Hampton Court
Thursday 25th October Harvest Festival
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



Class Attendance - w/c 24 September 2012

99.0%	Panda Class		97.6%	Ladybird Class		92.5%	Butterfly Class
99.0%	Hedgehog Class		97.3%	Puffin Class		92.4%	Turtle Class
99.0%	Jaguar Class		95.3%	Polar Bear Class		91.8%	Kestrel Class
98.6%	Monkey Class		95.3%	Badger Class		90.8%	Eagle Class
98.5%	Cheetah Class		95.2%	Wombat Class			

Jeans for Genes


Just a reminder that we are supporting the Jeans for Genes charity at school on Friday 5th October. Children can wear their jeans to school (with normal school uniform top) for a donation of 50p-£1. For the next week, we will also be selling zip-pulls for £1 each to raise further money for this charity. Zip-pulls will be taken around the classrooms for the children to buy if they wish to.



Request from the office

Do you have any spare girls socks, tights or underwear that you could donate to the school office?

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. You can also follow us on  www.twitter.com/TweeddaleCC

Contact the Centre on 020 8404 1640 or email tweeddalechildrenscentre@suttonlea.org



Family Fun Activity Group at Tweeddale Children's Centre **Saturday 13th October 9:30-11:30am**

For Dads, Mums, Step Parents, Grandparents and Carers with their children who are under 5. The group is aimed at children under 5 years old but our doors are open to your child's siblings up to the age of 11 years old.

We have fun indoor and outdoor activities, with **no need to book, just drop in and join in the fun!**