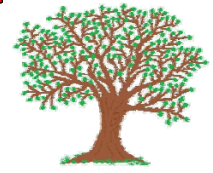


Weekly Newsletter

The Tweeddales



Tweeddale Primary School
Tuesday 6th December 2011



Dear Parents and Carers

We have had a very exciting Friday and Monday in the last week. On Friday, we began the Christmas festivities with our Christmas Fair. The PTFA worked fantastically hard to create very colourful Christmas stalls with games to play, gifts to buy and a Father Christmas to meet and share Christmas wishes. The Christmas Fair was organised by a small group of parents who gave their time for free and my first experience of a Tweeddale Christmas Fair was very memorable! The school looked so festive and was bulging with children and families eager to get into the Christmas spirit. The staff supported the PTFA and helped to organise and run the stalls and activities with the whole school buzzing with excitement. The PTFA raised **£950** and I thank everyone for their enthusiasm and commitment to fund raising for our school.

On Monday, we opened our doors to existing and prospective parents. All the teachers showed our high standards of teaching and learning in a range of subjects across the curriculum. The school was neat and tidy and displays everywhere were a clear example of the work going on in our classes. 24 Year 6 children acted as Tour Guides and gave personal tours for parents and carers both during the day and in the evening. Children and staff came back in the evening to give parents a flavour of school during the day and I presented a headteacher's talk to give more background information. I am incredibly proud of the school and the feedback from parents was amazing with very complimentary comments (eg, I loved the open day and found it very informative) about our school, our staff and our children. I congratulate everyone on a very successful day.

Our attendance last week dropped slightly to below our target of 94%. I fear that illness is now beginning to take its toll as winter approaches and the temperature drops. Please make sure that your child is warmly clothed with a coat, gloves and scarf to protect them against catching coughs and colds. May I also remind parents that school finishes at 3.20pm and children must be collected punctually. **Our aim to improve punctuality is important at both ends of the day with children being collected from school on time being as important as arriving on time.**

Whilst standing outside the school and greeting children and families I have seen many parents stopping on the zig-zag lines and letting children get out of the car into the road. **This is incredibly dangerous. The children are being encouraged to step out into the road and in front of oncoming traffic. Cars in both directions are forced to swerve to avoid children and cars as they speed up to drive away. The zig-zag lined area is not a dropping off zone and should be kept clear at all times.**

My congratulations to all children who received a Headteacher's Award last week - Soulymane Avice, Dylan Ballard, Nathaniel Banyon, Harlem Bouchez, Scott Cooper, Lucia Edwards, Mackenzie Jenkins, Sheena Malines, Katie Monckton, Mahiethan Nitharson, Athena Patton, Ashleigh Prior, Isobel Stockton and Karl Vista. I am very impressed with children's constant striving to improve.

Geraldine Wood, Headteacher



Attendance - w/c 28 November 2011

97.7%	Turtle Class	93.7%	Badger Class
96.1%	Wombat Class	93.5%	Puffin Class
95.4%	Ladybird Class	93.5%	Cheetah Class
95.1%	Polar Bear Class	93.5%	Jaguar Class
94.9%	Kestrel Class	92.2%	Panda Class
94.8%	Eagle Class	91.4%	Monkey Class
94.2%	Butterfly Class	83.9%	Hedgehog Class



From the office

Please remember the last day to book and pay for your child's Christmas dinner is **Thursday 8th December**. If your child usually has a school dinner on a Wednesday, the dinner has already been booked.

The last day to order & pay for your child's milk in the Spring term is **Thursday 15th December**.


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 last date for this half term is Tuesday 13th December.



Dates for your diary

- Wednesday 7th December..... Jaguar Class visit to Whitehall in Cheam
- Tuesday 13th December..... 2:15pm & 6:30pm Upper Phase Performance of "Cinderella"
- Wednesday 14th December..... Whole School Christmas Lunch
2:30pm Foundation Stage Christingle 
- Thursday 15th December..... 6:00pm Middle Phase Carol Service & Nativity
- Monday 19th December..... Class parties
- Tuesday 20th December..... 2:00pm School breaks up for Christmas
- Wednesday 4th January INSET Day (School, Children's Centre & Play Centre closed)
- Thursday 5th January Children return to school at normal time

Term Dates 2012

Spring Term 2012

Wednesday 4th January	INSET Day
Thursday 5th January	Return to school
Friday 10th February	Break up for half term
w/c 13th February	Half term
Monday 20th February	INSET Day
Tuesday 21st February	Return to school
Friday 30th March	Break up for Easter

Summer Term 2012

Monday 16th April	Return to school
Friday 1st June	Break up for half term
w/c 4th June	Half term
Monday 11th June	Return to school
Friday 29th June	INSET Day
Friday 20th July	Break up for summer

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



Family Fun Activity Group

This is a stay and play activity group for Dads, Mums, Grandparents, Step families and carers with their children who are under 5. This 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 activities such as messy play, music and movement and outdoor play equipment to name just a few! No need to book, just drop in and join in the fun.

Saturday 10th December 9:30-11:30am at Tweeddale Children's Centre