Head Teacher

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Ivy House News October 2013



Autumn term

The half term is upon us already. We have had a busy start to the year, settling everyone into their new classes and routines.



Parent and carer coffee morning.

Thank you to those parents who could join us on the coffee morning, even after we moved it back by a week. Thank you to Maureen for arranging it. This is open to parents who also have children at St Giles School or attend Umbrella. Please come along to join them for their next meeting. Dates will be sent out to you.

Communication workshop:

Thank you to those parents who were able to come and join the signing workshop and we hope you are able to use even a few signs regularly at home. The next workshop will be for body signing and using objects to communicate on Monday 18th November run by Kay Holman

Letters will follow shortly to book your place.

Life after school event:

Thank you to Janet for organising so many after school providers to come and share with us post school opportunities.

Twelve stalls were set out with information for a wide range of post school learning and living options. We hope you found this useful in supporting decision making for the future.

24 hour walk - funds for fun and Macmillan fundraisina



Who ordered the fabulous weather for the 24 hour sponsored walk and fun day? This was a superb fundraising event for families and staff. friends of Ivy House School and our local neighbours. Staff maintained a 24 hour constant walk (or in some cases running teams) around the pitch at the side of school. There were stalls and activities and a fabulous live band. Thank you to everyone who organised and supported this event and especially Tracy Darby who rallied everyone together and Kenny Maan for his site management. Over £1500 was raised which is to be shared between Macmillan cancer and Ivy House Funds for fun.

Harvest Assembly:

Thank you for all your harvest contributions. We had our special assembly where we sang and thought about others. Our collections were for the Padley Centre in Derby.

Book worms!

The pupils in Sudbury have joined the local library and have enjoyed their visits to choose a selection of books and CDs to share.

Pool.

Swimming at Ivy House Hydro-pool. We run a range of events in our pool including lifeguard training qualifications, family swims, swimming lessons and also splash parties.

For more information contact the team at: ivyhousepool@hotmail.co.uk.



Information update.

Please make sure you give school any changes of telephone numbers etc, so we can amend our records for contact. Also ensure that you are contactable in case of emergencies, or we have an alternative family number to access. Thank you



Other dates for your diaries.



<u>Funds for Fun -</u> there will be a cake stall at the Macmillan entrance of Derby Royal hospital, for our school funds for fun. If anyone is able to make cakes and drop them off for this event, or give some time to be at the stall on <u>Friday 1st November</u>, please contact school and your details will be passed to Rachael Newton, school nurse. Thank you for your support.

Parents' evening meetings with teachers:

We will be having our autumn MEP coffee meetings during the week of Monday 11th

November

Please look out for your class invitations to these.

Sorry but December will be here before we know it - so we are letting you know the dates for your diary early!

<u>Upper school</u> -Christmas Fayre 6th December <u>Lower school</u> -Nativity- 12th and 13th December <u>Party day-</u> 19th December

Final achievement assembly - 20th December.

General information

Return to school meetings:

If your son or daughter has surgery or a prolonged absence due to illness we will want to meet with you to do a return to school, to ensure we have everything in place for them. This will be **before** they return. Please contact us for this meeting as soon as you know they are returning to school. A class member, the school nurse and possibly physiotherapy support will be present. These meetings are invaluable.

Annual reviews:

The reviews will be running throughout the autumn, spring and into summer term next year on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Please reply immediately if the allocated time really is not convenient as we struggle to swap them round last minute. We have nearly 100 meetings to run so timings are crucial. Thank you

Ordering lunches and late arrivals:

If you are taking your son or daughter to an appointment, the kitchen staff need to know if dinner is required on their return please. Dinners need to be ordered before 10.30am so they can be prepared, and once ordered they need to be paid for. They can save a lunch in the kitchen until 1.30 for pupils. Thank you for your help.

Inspection year:

Don't forget it is our **Ofsted** inspection year. If you would like to take part in the online survey which is available, please visit:

http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/

And we thank you for all your support.

Inset date:

Our next <u>inset training days</u> when school is closed to pupils are:

<u>Friday 24th January</u> and <u>Friday 28th March</u> 2014

Thoughts:

Whoever is happy will make others happy too.

And

It is not who is right, but what is right, that is of importance.

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