

Having a problem in school? Don't forget, you can use:

**STOP IT
PLEASE!**



March/April 2016

“We want to unlock the learning potential of every child in our school, remove any barriers to learning and offer every child opportunities to develop the skills they need for a happy and successful life”

Newsletter

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Dear Parents

I usually try and think of a few wise words to start off my newsletters but I have to admit I have been totally overshadowed by the amazing efforts of the School Council. With a little support from Miss Shipley, they organised our first ever sponsored walk to raise some money for a local charity. The whole event was really well-organised and ran like clockwork. I never dreamt how successful it would be but thanks to the huge effort from everybody, the event raised a staggering £1,869.54 - unbelievable! As a result of that, it was decided to share the proceeds with three local charities - the Shakespeare Hospice, Riding for the Disabled and the Friendship Project who each received a cheque for £623.18 at a school assembly.

Once again, the School Council did us proud as they led the whole assembly, introduced the representatives from each charity and presented the cheques. They were brilliant!

There should be some coverage in the local press, this week.

One of the joys of being in a school is that, every day, you get to see, first hand, just how capable children are and why we are right to have such high expectations - they are awesome!

David Skelcher, Headmaster



Governor Questionnaire for Parents

Thank you to those parents who completed the questionnaire. Your views and comments are much appreciated. A summary of the findings and actions will be published shortly.

More Governor News

There have been some changes to governors in recent months due to new legislation and changes in members. An up-to-date list of governors will soon be published on the school website.

Much Tidier!

Years 1, 2 and 3 now have lockers in the corridors so no more lost kit!

Trevor Davies Visit

Initially we spent time looking at the latest data from the end of the Spring term and carried out a book scrutiny across the school to ensure that the data is painting an accurate picture of the children's learning. Armed with this, we were able to update the SEF (Self Evaluation Form) and the LIP (Learning Improvement Plan). These documents give us an accurate picture of where the school is and how it plans to move forward. As I have mentioned before, we are trialling an in-house assessment and tracking system owing to the lack of any national benchmarks. I am pleased to say that it seems to be working. We won't know for sure until the end of the year when we can check if the children have reached the majority of their end of year targets as specified in the National Curriculum. We are all optimistic about the outcomes.



Sport

Miss Johnson has been busy co-ordinating a variety of sports events. We have had Year 3/4 football; Key Stage 1 Multiskills; Year 5/6 Quicksticks and Netball. I am always impressed by the effort that the children put in and a memorable 6 - 1 victory over Brailes in netball certainly put a spring in everyone's step. We are aware of the difficulty in transporting children to and from these events and are considering other options but for the time being can I say a great big thank you to those parents who have been able to help us out and continue to do so.

As long as the budget allows, we will continue to fund sports coaches to deliver part of the National Curriculum P.E. requirement and our after-school multi-skills clubs because there is no doubt that we are starting to see the benefits as the children continue to develop their sports skills and knowledge. If Leicester City can do it, why not Quinton?!!



New Entrance Hall Artwork

For several weeks our artist, Ros, who specialises in ceramics, has been coming into school and every child has had the opportunity to contribute to our very special piece of 3D wall art that will grace the entrance hall. All the pieces have now been made by the children and it is in the process of being constructed at Ros's workshop. We hope to have it in place before half-term. Watch this space!

Finance Meeting

There are rigorous systems in place to make sure that we run our budget carefully. The accounts are balanced every month and sent into the Local Authority as well as termly visits from the Finance Officer. We continue to manage our funds well which means that we are in a strong position, enabling us to buy in any resources that we may need to improve the children's learning opportunities and experience.

Some reminders : see below

Attendance Drop!

For the first time in a while, we have dropped below 95% which is disappointing. Ideally I would like at least 98% attendance so please do your best to ensure that your children are in school.

School Lunch Money

Please put lunch money in an envelope with your **child's name** clearly written; **which days they are having lunch** and the **amount of money** enclosed. If you need envelopes, get them from Mrs Maxwell in the school office.

QPA Request

If you are willing to become part of the Parents' Association, please talk to Mrs Binks. They are looking for a new chairperson, treasurer and committee members to help raise money for the school. All school trips have been heavily subsidised by the QPA and without it, the knock on effect could be dramatic.

Contact Numbers and Medical Information

Make sure that Mrs Maxwell has up to date information if your child has any kind of allergy/illness that may have an impact on school. If you are not signed up to Parentmail, please do so and keep contact numbers up to date. If you move house, make sure that we have your new address.

Cygnets News At Cygnets we have been busy planting lots of seeds including runner beans, sunflowers and tomatoes and will be keeping a close eye on our plants as they grow. We were lucky enough to have a little lamb come and visit us and have really enjoyed looking at all the signs of Spring, especially watching the frog spawn turn into tadpoles over at the school!

Website Update is still ongoing: quintonprimaryschool.co.uk