

# Redbrook Primary School

## Newsletter



No. 46 20th April 2018

**Dear Parents/Carers,**

Welcome Back!

It has been delightful to welcome back our rested and restored children and I have heard some fabulous tales of holiday shenanigans. It sounds like a lot of fun has been had by many!

This is a great time of the year to continue moving our learning on as the improved weather means we can enjoy being outdoors more. We have training planned to help staff improve the playtimes and lunch breaks with our children and the school council will be involved in reviewing the available play equipment. If any of you fancy teaching us playground games that you enjoyed as a child it would be fabulous to build a repertoire and to reintroduce forgotten favourites. Let us know if you fancy helping us with this, I am thinking French skipping, jacks..... (if you would prefer to just provide the resources and not get involved in teaching this is equally valuable)

We have interviews planned imminently for recruiting an admin assistant and we anticipate this will help greatly to improve our communication, I look forward to introducing our successful candidate to you in the next newsletter.

Part of our INSET day for staff spent time looking at Guy Claxton's Learning Power Approach and how we can begin to tailor the learning we offer to our children to meet their future needs which we know are beyond passing knowledge recall tests. We had chance to explore what our children will need to be skilled in and how we can ensure that we teach these skills as an integral part of the curriculum offered across the WFF. I will give more information about this at the meetings planned for later this term and in each newsletter but one of the most powerful messages was regarding the use of the word 'yet'. If you could also use this word when your child tackles something new or unfamiliar I am sure we will begin to see an impact. So, for instance, if your child tells you they can't do something, add the word 'yet' to the end of their sentence and ask how they can be helped to achieve. We will be using 'yet' to support new learning and helping children to raise their expectations that they will be able to achieve as we work on promoting our positive learning mindset.

**Sarah Helm**

**Executive Head teacher**

**The Wye Forest Federation**

### Maypole

On Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May (Bank Holiday Monday) The Redbrook Millennium Green Committee and FORS will be holding the Wyelympics and May Fete between 1pm and 4pm on The Green in Redbrook. Everyone is invited to come along and join the fun. Donations of cakes and some help on the day would also be very welcome.



### Mrs King

Just to keep you informed, Mrs King will away from work until at least the 30<sup>th</sup> of April due to family circumstances. Mrs Woodhouse and Mrs Frey will continue to be supported by Mrs Sleightholme and Ms Brookes. Should there be any further changes to this arrangement then I will keep you updated.

### School Lunches and Parentpay

Thank you for the feedback about school lunches this week. We apologise for any problems that have been encountered. Parentpay should now be fixed for booking KS2 meals on the system. The decision to only allow KS2 children to have JKP and wraps was made to align the system with St Briavels. However following further discussion, we have decided to revert back to the system previously. From Monday all children at Redbrook will be able to order JKP and wraps for lunch. Other ongoing parentpay problems—we are not aware of any technical problems as to why you are having problems. The easiest way for Mrs Crellin to solve these quickly is for you to email a screen shot of the problem to [finance@wff.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:finance@wff.gloucs.sch.uk) so the picture can be sent on to Parentpay directly. We are really sorry that the office continues to be really busy and we are not responding to these problems in a timely manner, we are hoping that recruiting a new admin assistant will start to make a difference. In the meantime please continue to pay by cash or cheque in this short term, and we will resolve these problems.

## Raglan Castle trip

Falcon Class had a exciting trip exploring Raglan Castle this week in glorious sunshine. Our favourite parts of the day were pretending to be statues around the moat wall and discovering a toilet in a cupboard where we learnt what happened because there wasn't a flush!!! The children were fantastically behaved and loved having the chance to see their classroom learning for real. A big thank you to Mrs Blanch for driving the minibus for us and to Mrs Sleightholme and Miss Griffiths for joining us too.



## Different and better!

We are looking to give our children a different experience for the end of year performance this year. We enjoyed the experience of the theatre last year and feel that this year's performance should be led and driven by the children. So to make the most of this as a learning experience our final term's topic will be centred around the skills of planning and writing scripts, set design and the production of a staged event. We are planning that all aspects of putting on a production are covered including budgeting, graphic design and marketing. This project will cover the requirements of the national curriculum whilst providing a purposeful context linking all the learning. If we have anyone who feels they would be able to be involved and support us with any aspect of this work or if you know people in the community who could support us, we would love to involve you from the planning stages onwards so please let us know. Where we know we have specific talents within our parent groups we will be asking for your help! This is an exciting piece of work and a great way to work across the wider community.

## Fresh Starts

This week I introduced the children to the revised expectations for behaviour for all, what we are looking for in our school and I talked about demonstrating and cultivating 'Pride in the badge'. This is with the aim of making Redbrook the best school it can be, extending and developing exciting learning opportunities and supporting each other as we progress in our learning journey. The children were positive and responded well. I am looking forward to celebrating their achievements both academically and in the wider life of the school, including in demonstrating our school values. Such an exciting time of the year to be raising our game as we move forward.

## Attendance

Just to remind you that our expectation is that every child will attend every day that the school is open unless they are unwell. Please inform the school should your child not be attending, this is so we can ensure all children are safe. We are being closely monitored by the local authority to improve both our attendance and punctuality and we greatly appreciate your support in building good patterns of school attendance.

In light of the serious case review into the death of Chadrack Mbala Mulo we will be reviewing our procedures with regard to children's absence from school. We will of course keep you informed of any changes in forthcoming newsletters.

## Sunshine!



As the weather improves we need to think about protecting ourselves from the sun.

Please send your children in with labelled sunhats and sun cream.

## Cake Sale

School council would like to thank you for baking and buying cakes at our cake sale. We have raised £115 which will be split between the school, church and sports relief.

Written by  
Scarlett and  
Rourke.



## School Uniform

As most parents are aware we are trying to change our supplier of school uniform to Price and Buckland. This supplier will allow parents to order online and have the items sent to home, or school without the school having to be involved with collating orders.

In order to move forward with this supplier we need to approve the artwork. Their first effort at artwork has been sent to us and so we are looking for feedback from parents for this. Please be aware we will be requesting a burgundy background not the red as displayed!

We will be sending out a short survey (using google forms) next week asking for your response by FRIDAY 27th APRIL.



## Thank You

A huge Thank you to Orla & Tam who (with the help of Dad) came in over the holidays and re-vamped and extended our school pond to make it into a lovely home for our tadpoles. This is really appreciated and we look forward to watching the changes as we await our frogs!

