

NEWSLETTER 22 **29th February 2008**



From the Headteacher

Welcome back to the new term, I hope you had an enjoyable holiday. I was really pleased to be able to get out into my garden and clear it ready for spring, probably too many lazy mornings but it was a holiday after all!

Details of our chess club and a reply slip will be on next week's newsletter

Enclosed with this week's newsletter is our OFSTED report, I have also attached a copy of the letter the inspector wrote to the children. Your child received a copy of this today. The report highlights many strengths of the school that we were keen to share, things that make our school special. These included that we are a caring community; the children enjoy coming to school and learning; and the good start to school the children receive in the Foundation Stage. We were very clear with the inspector about our strengths but also about the areas we want to improve. The inspection fully agreed with our evaluations and plans to move the school forward. Through the newsletters and the 'coffee and a chat' sessions I will keep you informed of the major changes and areas of development we are focusing on, so that we can work together.

We have many strands we are working on at any one time but two of these are assessment and tracking and behaviour. We have drawn up a new plan for the year, of the assessments we are going to carry out in each year group. No more than previously, but the data will be more useful in tracking the progress of the children. A new system of tracking, evaluating and using the information from the assessments is also being developed. This will enable more accurate target setting, rigorous monitoring of each individual child. This information will be shared with you through parent consultations and the child's end of year report. This will help us ensure every child fulfils their potential academically, socially and in all aspects and interests.

We are also focusing on behaviour across the school, during lessons, playtimes, and lunchtimes, and in all aspects of school life. OfSTED highlighted that we are a caring community and part of that is having high expectations of behaviour for ourselves and towards the other children and adults in our community. We want all of the children to feel safe and happy coming to school, knowing they are in a place that listens to them, cares for them and where they can grow and develop. We can only achieve this by working together.

Joy Mounter

Reminder Book Fair:

Accompanying this newsletter your child should be bringing home a book fair catalogue and a World Book Day token which can be spent at the book fair on Tuesday 4th March.

Tess Kaunhoven

Science Club:

Mrs Anderton will run a science club after school on Wednesdays, starting on **Wednesday 5th March, from 3.30 – 4.30.** There are 12 places for KS2 pupils. If your child wishes to attend please write a note to Mrs Stallard.

Jan Stallard

Sainsbury's Active Kids:

This year's Active Kids campaign runs from 14th February to the 4th June. Our school and all the children would be very grateful if you would collect your Active Kids vouchers whenever you shop at Sainsbury's. There will be a collection box in the school library.

Kara Wickham

From the Friends of St. Aldhelm's(PTA)

The **School Disco** is tonight at **6.00pm** in the Village Hall. Due to Health and Safety we can no longer allow Heals to be worn (not heals). **£2 entrance** – Hot dogs not available, but sweets and healthy snacks available including popcorn.

All the tickets have now been sold for the **Sense Pamper Evening**. Thanks to all those who are coming. We will all meet at Sense in Coxley at 7.30pm next Tuesday for a relaxing and luxurious evening.

Years **1 and 5** are running a **cake market** next **Friday 7th March** after assembly. We would be very grateful for contributions of cakes, biscuits and other produce, also small Easter eggs as we are planning a Spring/Easter theme. Please bring your donations along to the office in the morning.

The PTA are looking for a **Treasurer**. If you would like to volunteer please come along to the next PTA meeting to be held at the **Waggon and Horses on Wednesday 12th March at 8.00pm**. Otherwise see Caroline Marshall or Helen Glasspool. What we really need is someone to keep a record of accounts but we would welcome the help of another committee member.

Mothering Sunday 2nd March:

There will be a special service in both village churches to celebrate this occasion.

Cranmore – Family Service 10.00am
Doulting – Family Service 11.00am

You can be sure of a very warm welcome.