



NEWSLETTER Friday 6th November 2009

Feedback from the Family Forum 22.10.09

On Thursday 22nd October we held our first Family Forum. Along with Jenny Hatcliffe (Family Mentor), Elaine Skidmore (Chair of Governors) and myself there were six parents who attended. We discussed the new Family Mentor role and there were some interesting suggestions for how we might improve our service. These suggestions included:

- +providing a toy library for parents to use with their children
- +providing information sessions for parents before they join the school in September
- +providing ideas for craft activities for holidays
- +providing cookery, reading, maths and ICT classes for parents
- +starting a parent/child activity group
- +having staff photos up around the school so that parents can identify staff members
- +using newsletters to encourage more ongoing feedback by parents
- +having more news from children in the newsletter

The school will be responding by following up these suggestions over the next few weeks- in fact Jenny is starting with a reading session in two weeks (please see below).

New Family Mentor – Jenny Hatcliffe

This is to introduce myself as Family Mentor for the school. My role will include provision for any additional help and support that families may need from help with reading, finding after school care, crafts, cooking, healthy living and eating, help with external agencies and I am hoping to develop this role further following feedback from parents. I am very familiar with school life and with any issues that children and families may encounter. Please do not hesitate to contact me either through class teacher or school office.

I am available on:

Wednesday afternoon from 3.15 – 4.45

Thursday from 1.00 – 5.00.

You can find me in the Family and Community room which is located by the school office.

I will be holding reading workshop sessions as a result of suggestions put forward by parents at the recent Family Forum meeting.

Helping your child with reading

Would you like to find out more about how to read with your child, to gain tips and strategies to develop reading skills?

Reading workshops will take place on **Wednesday 18th November at 3.30 pm (with children) or Thursday 19th November at 2.30 (without children) or 3.30 (with children)**. Suitable for all age groups. Please return a reply slip to say if you would like to attend as places will be limited.

Extra- curricular clubs

Here is a list of extra-curricular clubs running this term. Please contact the office if you would like your child to join any of these clubs.

Club	Day	Year groups	Organiser	Venue
Gymnastics	Wednesday	Y1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	Kingswood Gym	Hall
Cheer leaders	Tuesday	Reception to Y4	Kingswood Gym	Hall
Morris dancing	Friday	All	Mrs Good	Hall
Chess	Wednesday	All	Mr Farr	Hall
Football	Wednesday	Y6	Mr Fry	Field
Maths	Wednesday	Y5&6	Mrs Chen-Phillips	Mr Farr's room
Netball	Thursday	Y5&6	Ms May & Ms McElroy	Playground
Tennis	Monday	Y4, 5 & 6	AJP Tennis	Hall
Dance & Drama	Thursday	Y3, 4, 5 & 6	Mrs Stewart	Hall
Football	Tuesday	Y3, 4, 5 & 6	Raphael Burke	Field
Football	Thursday	Y1, 2	Raphael Burke	Field

Internet Safety Parents Meeting

An **internet safety parents meeting** will be held at Barrs Court Primary School (Stephens Drive, Barrs Court BS30 7JB), provided by Avon and Somerset Police and South West Grid for Learning on **17th November @ 7.00pm**. This meeting is very important if you have any concerns about children's safe use of the internet and I am sure you will learn a great deal from attending.

Wanted - Clean! Actimel yogurt drinks bottles for craft at FOLG Festive Fair. Please leave in the school entrance foyer. Thank you.

Would you like to be a School Governor?

The Governing Body has a vacancy for a Parent Governor following the resignation of Mr Mike Henry. We will shortly be sending out nomination forms to parents.

Being a School Governor is a rewarding job – although it is voluntary and unpaid! What is required is enthusiasm and time to attend meetings and to visit the school. Training is offered by the Governor Support Unit and you are encouraged to undertake this to assist in developing your role.

No previous experience is required!

If you are interested and wish to find out more then please contact the office and either myself or Mrs Jenny Hatcliffe (Family Mentor) will be pleased to discuss the role.

Elaine Skidmore
Chair of Governors

Play meeting- a reminder

There is a meeting for parents about play in school, on Tuesday 10th November at 6.30 in the hall. This is an important meeting because it will explore the changes to play the school are planning, and it will be led by Michael Follett, a national advisor on children's play. Details and a reply slip were in Newsletter 7 (23rd October).

Cheerleading Course – now has spaces. Held on Tuesday straight after school – pick up at 4.15 pm. Age range – reception to year 4. Please phone Kingswood Gymnastics on 0117 9476449 to book a place.

Annual Craft Fair

Saturday 14th November 10.00 am – 3.00 pm. Arts – crafts – produce demonstrations. John Cabot Academy, Woodside Road, Kingswood, Bristol.

I would like to attend the following Reading Workshops

Name Child's Name & Class.....

Please tick

Wednesday 3.30 pm

Thursday 2.30 pm

Thursday 3.30 pm