

Friday 28th May 2010

Dear Parents,

Our kitchen was declared well and truly open by the Hairy Bikers on Monday 17th May! Please visit the school website for pictures, and you also may have seen the article in the Echo. Thank you to Mr. MacDonald Taylor for arranging this for us.

The May Ball ~ I would like to thank our PTA led by the Chair, Mrs. Ramdharry, for organising such an enjoyable evening at the Cumberland Hotel. The food was absolutely excellent and the hotel was a lovely venue.

St. Thomas Garnet's Feast Day Mass ~Please note the change of venue and time for this special celebration. Our Mass will take place in Corpus Christi Church at 10.00 a.m. and not in the school hall at 9.15 a.m. Father Peter will be saying our Feast Day Mass which will be led by our boys and girls who will have made their First Holy Communion by then. All our boys and girls will be performing in the school hall for each other for the rest of the day as well as enjoying an ice-cream, courtesy of our PTA.

J4 Leavers' Mass ~Please note the change of date. This will now take place on Tuesday 6th July at Corpus Christi Church at 10.00 a.m., after which all parents are invited back to our school hall for refreshments, catering to be provided by Garnet's Gourmet. This is a very special day in the life of our school, and as such please give your full support. Family, friends and especially grandparents are most welcome. All please come if you possibly can.

Hats and Water Bottles ~ After half term we may have some lovely hot weather. Boys and girls should all be wearing summer cotton hats when out at play. These can be purchased at Barretts of Southbourne. Please ensure that your child has a water bottle in school. These can be filled from class taps that our plumber has labelled as drinking water.

Mrs. Anne Batt will be performing at the St. Peter's De La Salle Theatre on Thursday 3rd June. Anne is our very experienced and dedicated peripatetic piano teacher, so it will be a treat to watch her play and of course, wonderful to support this extremely worth while event in aid of the Meningitis Trust. You may obtain your tickets from Anne. Email anniebatt@live.co.uk or telephone 01202 522473.

Communication ~ It is wonderful to be able to communicate with you all directly by email. Recently I was able to email all J4 parents to inform them of my visit to Fairthorne Manner. It also avoids parents finding letters at the bottom of desks or hidden away in school bags. We are aiming to have ALL PARENTS on our group email, so if we do not have you email details, please email them to Mrs. Fox at enquiries@thomasgarnets.com. The school website also has up to date information such as the newly updated diary dates and the recent Asthma Policy.

Homework Club Re-organisation and very important Club News Our homework club attendance has increased greatly with both Infants and Juniors staying on to do their homework. It is now time for a change and this change will also include BOTH Infant and Junior ICT clubs. The Infant ICT was Mrs. Verstage's initiative helped by Mrs. Read-Wilson. Unfortunately both teachers have reported that the hour is too long a time and some pupils, although excited at first, are finding the session far too long. The Junior ICT club is now stopping pupils from completing their homework. Both clubs will cease after half term along with Mrs. Gillings' Infant Activity Club. The new arrangements for after school provision will be enriched now on a daily basis as these activities will be incorporated into a separate homework club for Infants, thus allowing activities, help with homework, and access to the ICT suite every day. This will form the new Infant Homework Club which will run from 3.15 to 4.30 p.m. every day and will be supervised by Mrs. Gillings, Miss Cook, and Mrs. Williams.

Junior Homework Club will now take place in Junior 2 classroom with access to the computer suit only for Juniors who need to do "My Maths" online homework. This should be a great help for parents with over two Junior children wishing to use the home computer at once ! This will mean that Juniors will be working and completing homework without any distraction, and Mr. Kenward will be

helping and monitoring the completion of all homework. Juniors will break at 4.30 p.m. to go outside for activities, but will return to continue with homework.

From 4.30 to 6.00 p.m. any remaining Infants will transfer to Junior 2 with Mr. Kenward. Children can be collected in the usual way via the computer room up the stairs.

Pupils' homework diaries will be monitored carefully by class teachers and all children attending homework club will need to show their diary and have it signed by the teachers. Any child telling staff that they have no homework will be given work to do.

Garnet's Gourmet will continue to supply the snack at this time of day. The new homework arrangements will provide Juniors with a more studious setting, and give Infants the chance to complete their homework with their teachers but to also enjoy a variety of activities including the computer suite.

The cost of the homework is £3.50 for the first hour and a further £3.50 for the second hour.

The new arrangements will take place after half term.

I hope that you have had an enjoyable afternoon having spent some time viewing your child's (children's work). Your child's national curriculum targets will have been discussed prior to open afternoon and this will be a clear indication of progress and how you may help your child achieve the next target. Our pupils will become increasingly aware of what they need to do in order to progress and the continual reminder of how to do this is glued in the exercise books.

Please do not hesitate to make an appointment to come and see me should you wish to discuss any part of your child's education. If you are pleased, tell others, if not, see me ! I wish you all a restful half term holiday.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs. Julie-Anne Cutler

Diary Dates Summer Term 2010

Half Term 28th May to 4th June

June

- Monday 7th "Drama Week" for all Juniors with Big Little Theatre School
Wednesday 9th Secondary Transfer Process Talk by Bournemouth LA for J3 parents.
Sunday 13th First Holy Communion at Our Lady Queen of Peace 2.00 p.m.
Monday 14th Dress Rehearsal of Junior Performance for Kindergarten and Infants.
Tuesday 15th Juniors' End of Year Production School Hall 7.00 p.m.
Wednesday 16th The Good Shepherd Mass at Winchester Cathedral (5 pupils only)
Wednesday 16th Juniors' End of Year Performance School Hall 7.00 p.m.
Friday 18th Sailing Course 1.00 to 3.00 p.m. First of Three
Monday 21st Whole School Photograph 10.30 a.m.
Wednesday 23rd **St. Thomas Garnet Feast Day ~ Celebration Mass, and First Holy Communion to take place at 10.00 a.m. in Corpus Christi Church**
Thursday 24th Sailing Course 9.30 – 11.30 a.m. Second of Three
Friday 25th J1 and J2 visit Longleat (leave 8.30 a.m. return 5.30 p.m.)
All Infant Classes visit Beaulieu (leave 9.00 a.m. return 3.00 p.m.)
Sailing Course 9.30 – 11.30 a.m. Last of Three
Monday 28th Drama Festival Day for Transition, Junior1 & Junior 2 pupils
Tuesday 29th J3 outing to the Ancient Technology Centre (leave 8.30 a.m. return 5.30 p.m.)
Wednesday 30th Drama Festival Day for Junior 3 & Junior 4 pupils
1.15 to 3.00 p.m. New Reception Children visit for September 2010
2.30 p.m. P.T.A. Uniform Sale
7.30 p.m. New Classes Information Evening for Parents.

July

- Thursday 1st Recorder Festival Day 11.00 a.m. start B.N.S.S. Christchurch Road
Friday 2nd Choir Festival Day 10.00 a.m. Bournemouth Pavilion
Junior 4 Parents' Supper Evening
Tuesday 6th **Junior 4 Leavers' Mass** 10.00 am Corpus Christi Church
Wednesday 7th Transfer day for all classes to visit new teachers and
for Junior 4 pupils to visit their new Secondary Schools
Thursday 8th 7.00 p.m. **Prize Giving Evening** School Hall
Friday 9th **J4 Leavers' Assembly** 9.15 am School Hall

School Year Ends Friday 9th July at 2.30 pm
Autumn Term Starts on Thursday 9th September 2010

