



# NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 17<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2008



## HARVEST

Many thanks for your generous donations. We are to be distributed locally.



currently packaging them up

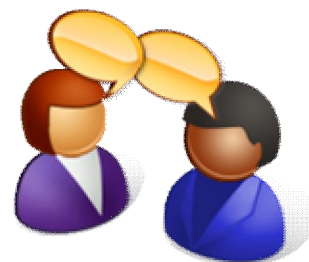


## IMPORTANT CHANGE OF DATES

We had planned to hold a Curriculum Evening on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November. This has been postponed and will take place in the Spring Term, with the date to be advised. The speaker from the IPC (International Primary Curriculum) was unable to make the November date and by the spring term, there will be even more work from our new thematic approach to share with you.

## DROP-IN SESSIONS

It was good to see so many of you at our first Parents' Drop-In session last Wednesday after school. This is an excellent opportunity for you to pop into your child's classroom and have an informal chat about your child or to have a look at the classroom and corridor displays and your child's work. Children are always very proud of their classroom and will really enjoy showing you around it.

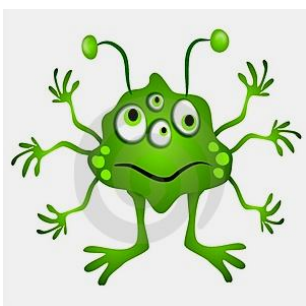


I had scheduled the next Drop-In session for Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November. Reviewing this date, I see it is straight after half-term and very close to our Parents' Meetings (which take place next Tuesday 5.30-7.30pm and next Wednesday 3.30-5.30pm). **The next scheduled Drop-In therefore, will be Wednesday November 26<sup>th</sup> and not Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November.**

Once you have collected your child, please come straight into school and make your way to the classroom. Once your child's class teacher has seen the children home, she will return to the classroom.

## EDUCATIONAL VISITS AND EVENTS

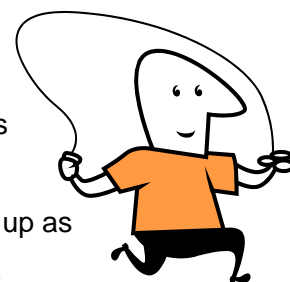
The autumn term has started with an exciting programme of visits and events. Each Year 6 class spent a week at The Whitgift School and then visited The Science Museum to support their Theme of 'Mission to Mars and Beyond'. Year 5, just this week, visited The Horniman's Museum to link with their Theme of 'The Holiday Show – Location'. Year 4 spent an enjoyable day at London Zoo, supporting their 'Rainforest' Theme and Year 3 have enjoyed having visitors in to talk about and demonstrate Mendhi patterns, linked to Eid.



Year 2 are off to the The Victoria & Albert Museum on Monday as part of their 'Clothes' Theme. Year 1 have enjoyed a Japanese afternoon and were recently visited by an alien! The children in Reception are settling in well and will be enjoying an exciting programme of visits soon.

Many exciting trips/visitors have been booked for the rest of the year. Thank you so much for your support with these trips and for offering to accompany the children. Without this support, we would not be able to provide these excellent opportunities for learning outside of the classroom.

Since Skipping Workshop came to the school, skipping skills have improved dramatically (for both children and staff!), improving fitness levels at the same time as well as having loads of fun, particularly at lunchtime when we have the long ropes out and up to 8 children can skip simultaneously.



Our Book Week was one of the most successful ever with nearly everyone dressing up as their favourite book character. I would like to thank Miss Smith, our new Literacy Co-ordinator (and Class 5S teacher) for her hard work in organising the events of this very special and enjoyable week.

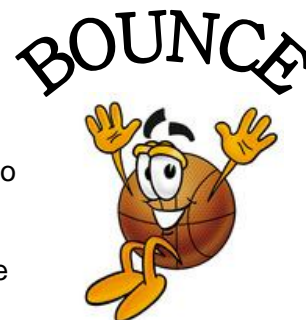
### KITCHEN ASSISTANT VACANCY



Sheryl, our cook in the school kitchen, has asked me to inform you that we have a vacancy for a Kitchen Assistant. The position is for two hours a day, Monday to Friday and during term time only. If you are interested, or would like to find out more, please call Lynn Skilton on 0208 686 5762 or visit the school kitchen.

### 'BOUNCE'

Within our Woodside Extended School Cluster (South Norwood Primary School, Heaver's Farm, St. Mark's, Ryelands, Woodside Infant, Woodside Junior, St Thomas Beckett and Crosfield Nursery), we have been chosen to pilot a new initiative called the 'Disadvantage Subsidy Pathfinder'. This is a bit of a mouthful, so our Cluster has decided to name it 'Bounce'.



As one of only two clusters within Croydon, and with Croydon being only one of the two London boroughs involved, we have been given a pot of money to provide after-school and holiday activities for children who meet a set criteria. These include children who are registered for Free School meals (FSM) and Looked after Children (children in care). We are delighted to be able to offer a range of activities for these children straight after the half-term and letters will be going out on Monday to qualifying families.

I am currently working on a new programme of after-school clubs for all children in the spring term, including activities for Year 1 and Year 2 children. More news soon.

### YEAR 6 SCHOOL JOURNEY

Apologies to parents of children in 6B and 6M who have been asked to confirm their place on the Year 6 residential trip by returning a deposit by 30<sup>th</sup> October. This is of course during half-term – sorry for the confusion. Can you please ensure that the holding deposit is back to school by Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November at the latest. Thank you.

### MUFTI DAY

Next Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October is a Mufti Day when the children can wear their own clothes. Please send your child in with a £1 contribution towards the cost of setting up the Christmas Fair.



### CARS IN GRESHAM ROAD

Thank you to those drivers who did stop driving into Gresham Road, meaning that they then have to turn around or reverse at a time when there are lots of people around. Can I please ask again that if possible, you park a little further away and walk for just a couple of minutes to the gate. It will make it far safer for everyone. Thank you.

### AUTUMN HALF-TERM HOLIDAY

A reminder that we break up for the half-term holiday next Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October. Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November is an INSET Day, so **the children come back to school on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November.**