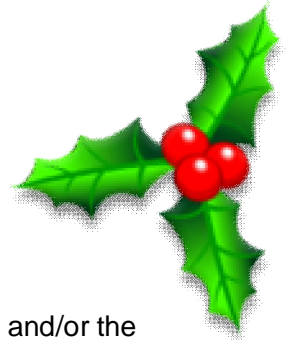




NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2008



CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES



I do hope that you were able to come to the Infant Nativity and/or the Junior 'Christmas Around the World' productions. Both were stunning and I can only again express my thanks to the teachers and teaching assistants who worked so hard to bring it all together. The children were amazing: their singing, dancing and acting was of such a high standard and their enjoyment was very clear for all to see. As I said at one of the Infant performances: to sing when you are smiling is not an easy thing to do!

We have had, and continue to have, a huge focus on improving speaking and listening skills, a more practical and 'hands on' approach to learning, as well as raising self-esteem. Many parents have also expressed how much their children are enjoying the after-school activities and feel that this is playing a key role in improving confidence levels. All of this together is undoubtedly having an extremely positive effect on the children and there could have been no better way to end this year than with a celebration of children in song.



STARLIGHT CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION



Thanks to your very generous donations at each of the performances, we raised £181.44 to send to Starlight. Starlight Children's Foundation brightens the lives of seriously and terminally ill children by granting their wishes and providing hospital entertainment to help take their minds off the pain, fear and isolation of their illness. The Foundation will have helped over 500,000 children this year, so we are delighted to be able to make our donation.

SHINE AWARDS

The following children today received SHINE Awards for the Autumn Term. They had been nominated by their teachers for a significant improvement in their learning, attitude or behaviour. This is a termly award for two children in each class. A picture postcard with the reason for the nomination written on the back is awarded, plus each child can choose a small prize. **Well done to the SHINE Award winners for Autumn 2008:**

RJ	Iola Agbalaya-Mason & Desharn Jones
RP	Adam Ifrene & Nadia Gohar
1R	Louie Mulvaney & Alfie Ollett
1W	Kylie Cousins & Kiran Takwani
2C	Rachael Adeola & Mishaella Osei
2Z	Paige McGranaghan & Malachi Payne
3B	Mario Stewart & Chloe Facey
3T	Jade Davis & Grace Musungu
4B	Amel Ramsie & Shadrac Howell
4T	Tuwarne Matthews & Siobhan Robinson
5S	Daniel Clarke & Rhys Melhado-Thompson
5T	Ajani Blackwood & Lauryn Russell
6B	Amy Johnson & Tyler Smith
6M	Amil Bello & Sophie Malley



PROTEST AGAINST THE DEVELOPMENT OF 1a BIRCHANGER ROAD

I do hope that you saw a copy of last Friday's Croydon Advertiser. Our School Council were given nearly a whole-page spread on their protest against the above development. Many of their comments were quoted in the report with a fabulous picture of them in the Outdoor Sensory Learning Area. As soon as we hear of the outcome, I shall let you know. Thank you to those of you who returned the parent letter in support of our campaign.



ACTIVEMARK 2008

We have just this week been informed that we have again achieved the Activemark Award. With all of the curriculum time and extra-curricular sporting activities, we have managed to retain this prestigious award (we were awarded it last year too). This is excellent news at a time when there is a significant focus on children's health, fitness and emotional wellbeing.

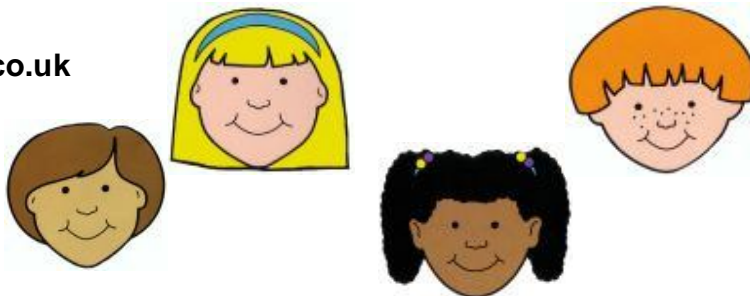
AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

A very exciting range of clubs will be on offer for both Infants and Juniors immediately upon the return to school. A letter will be sent home by Wednesday 7th January. Please return your form promptly as the places get taken very quickly.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

It has taken a very long time and much pondering, but the winners have now been decided for the staff pictures on the school's website. Very soon, they will appear on the website in the 'staff' section. The likenesses are quite amazing! Quotes from children will also support the pictures. Just a reminder that you can find our website at:

www.southnorwoodprimaryschool.co.uk



SPRING TERM 2009

A reminder that Monday 5th January is an INSET Day. ***The children return to school on Tuesday 6th January. Please ensure your child is on school on time: 9.00am for the Juniors and 9.10am for the Infants – thank you.***



Can I take this opportunity, on behalf of all of the staff at South Norwood Primary, to wish you a very merry and peaceful Christmas.