



**ALL SAINTS BENVILTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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Headteacher: Mrs R Sutton

21<sup>st</sup> January 2013

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year to you all, I do hope that 2013 will be a good year for you all. The Christmas holidays now seem a long time ago as the children have settled straight back into school and are working hard. The year has started with great excitement as we see the machinery working on the plot next to school, making a start on our new classrooms at last!!

**Staffing News** – Mrs Fortune has now started her maternity leave and we are pleased to welcome Miss Dorling to Larch Class. Miss Dorling will be with us throughout the whole of Mrs Fortune's leave.

Very sadly, Mrs Faisal had to resign at Christmas. Mrs Rhodes is now working as Teaching Assistant in Elm Class on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Miss Newton will be returning to her position in Elm Class in February.

Mrs Pearson is still unwell and is not yet able to return to work. We are very grateful to Mrs Clarke for teaching Oak Class during the whole of Mrs Pearson's absence.

Mrs Carguillo has now had the plaster removed from her wrist, but is still unable to return to work.

I am grateful to Mrs Barker for taking on extra duties. We are pleased to welcome two new members of staff; Mrs Green is working as a support assistant in KS2 and Mrs Johnson has joined our administration team and is working in the school office on a Monday and a Friday..

**Curriculum News** - You will have noticed that all classes have either had an Educational Visit or an in-school experience to start off the term or will be having one shortly.

This will happen at the beginning of each new topic that the children undertake as we introduce the Cornerstones Curriculum. Cornerstones is a method of delivering the National Curriculum making it more exciting and creative for the children, as well as involving you more in their learning. . Each topic starts with an experience to "engage" the children, staff then work to "develop" the children's learning through the topic, and each topic ends with a sharing of the learning with you. Your children will be inviting you in at the end of a day towards half term to share the learning they have undertaken. If you would like to know more about Cornerstones, please come to a presentation at 2.30pm on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January, when I will be pleased to give you more information and show you the materials we are using. You might also like to visit their website at [www.cornerstoneseducation.co.uk](http://www.cornerstoneseducation.co.uk)

I am very conscious of the fact that an increase in visits/experiences could lead to an increase in contributions from parents and for that reason we are making good use of public transport, that we can use for free, and are looking at venues which are free or have a small entry fee, whilst still providing a high quality experience.

**Early years and KS1 Christmas Productions** – Mr McGreig now has the DVD of the Nativity Productions available. If you would like to purchase one, please collect an order form from the office

**Long hair** – Please make sure that all children with long hair have it tied up. I have noticed recently that many children with long hair are coming to school with their hair down. Not only is this a safety issue in P.E., but it is a health issue as we occasionally have outbreaks of headlice in school.

**Parent/ Teacher interviews** – you are invited to come and meet your class teacher to discuss your children's progress. Interviews this term will be held on the following dates:

Nursery –	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	10.00am -7.40pm
School -	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	2.30 –6.15pm (KS2)
		4.00 – 6.15pm (Reception and KS1)
	- Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	4.45-8pm (all classes)

Sign-up posters will be on classroom doors as from Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb.

*All Saints is a Voluntary Aided School within the Diocese of Southwark*

**School meals** – we are delighted by the rise in number of children having school meals now that we have a more flexible approach. To ensure that we have the correct numbers each day, could you all please complete the attached form and return it to the office. When you need to make any further changes to your children’s meal patterns, we will ask you to complete this form again. Please note that we require at least one week’s notice to change a meal pattern.

**Swimming** – year 5 will start swimming lessons on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January. This is later than usual as we are returning to the newly refurbished Westcroft Centre.

**Quiz Night** – ASBSA’s annual quiz night is on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February at 7pm. This is always a very enjoyable evening with a fish and chip supper. If you cannot make up a team but would like to take part, please return your slip as an individual and we will make sure you are part of a team.

**ECO Friendly** – in an attempt to use less paper and be more efficient, I am looking to send the newsletter out electronically to as many families as possible. When you come to the Parent/Teacher interviews, you will be asked to complete a short data collection sheet asking you for an email address to which we can send notification that a newsletter is on the website, and a mobile phone number to which you would like group texts to be sent. If you do not have access to the internet we will, of course, send you home a paper copy of the newsletter.

**Charitable Donations** – From the retiring collections at the KS1 Christmas performances and the Carol Service, we have been able to send £236 to The Diamond Riding Centre and £125 to The Salvation Army. Thank you for your generosity.

**School Nurse drop in session** – The School Nurse, Linda Lines, will be in school from 2.30pm on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February and from 8.30am on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March. If you would like to discuss something with her, please come into school at those times. It would be helpful if you could let the office know if you intend seeing her. Thank you.

**Rock group** – please note that Mrs Roots’ Rock Group meets at lunchtime on Tuesdays, not 3:15pm. There was an error in the clubs notice

**Mobile phones** - Just a reminder that only Year 6 children who walk home alone may bring a phone to school and that the school will not be responsible for loss or damage to any mobile phone. Children are not to bring i phones or expensive phones, such as Blackberries, to school. Parents of children who are to walk home alone need to have informed the school in writing please. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Home Start** – we have had a message from “Home Start” who are looking to recruit home visiting volunteers to provide support for families who are struggling. Volunteers visit families for a couple of hours each week, in their own homes. All volunteers undergo a preparation course which will be starting on 28<sup>th</sup> February, in Carshalton. Expenses will be paid. For more information please contact *Home Start Sutton* on 020 8647 6501 or email [homestartsutton@btconnect.com](mailto:homestartsutton@btconnect.com).

### Diary Dates

Date	Item
29 <sup>th</sup> January	Swimming starts for Willow Class
31 <sup>st</sup> January	2.30pm Cornerstones Curriculum Presentation
1 <sup>st</sup> February	7.00pm ASBSA Quiz – all welcome
4 <sup>th</sup> February	Dental Survey – Nursery children
5 <sup>th</sup> February	2.30pm School nurse drop in session
12 <sup>th</sup> February	ASBSA Valentine Treat Sale
13 <sup>th</sup> February	Ash Wednesday Mass at All Saints Benhilton Church
15 <sup>th</sup> February	ASB Talent Show – children will be given details
18 <sup>th</sup> February	Half term Week
26 <sup>th</sup> February	Beech Class visit to local Synagogue
26 <sup>th</sup> February	Parent-teacher interviews
28 <sup>th</sup> February	Larch Class visit to The British Museum
28 <sup>th</sup> February	Parent-teacher interviews
28 <sup>th</sup> February	Nursery parent-teacher interviews
5 <sup>th</sup> March	8.30am School nurse drop in session
5 <sup>th</sup> March	7.30pm ASBSA Meeting
11 <sup>th</sup> March	Book Week all this week
20 <sup>th</sup> March	KS2 Music Festival at the Fairfield Halls – details nearer the time
28 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30am Easter Service in church
<b>28<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Last day of term – school closes at 2:15pm</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> April	7.30pm ASBSA Annual General Meeting and Curriculum Presentation

Yours sincerely,

R.P. Sutton Headteacher