

# July Newsletter



Melbourn Primary School 17<sup>th</sup> July 2009

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The summer holidays are upon us! We have had a busy and productive summer term which at times has provided challenges with the heat we have experienced. The children have taken part in a number of extra-curricular activities and trips which all add to our aim of “making learning irresistible”.



## SPORTS DAY

Fortune smiled on us for our annual Sports Day and we managed to get through a large number of the events before the heavens opened!! The children really enjoyed showing off the skills they have learned during their PE lessons. Many thanks go to the PTFA who kindly arranged both strawberries and cream and refreshments for this event.

## KS2 PRODUCTION

“Hoodwinked” was a great success. The children performed a challenging four performances and managed to entertain around 400 people in the process. We had some outstanding solo performances (I think we have some definite ‘stars in the making’!) and our choir did a sterling job as always. Many thanks to all who helped this become such a success. We also managed to raise almost £250 through collections on the night for our nominated charity DaisyChain which provides support to families with autistic children.

## GRAFHAM WATER

Our Y4 children enjoyed an exciting trip to Grafham this week for the annual Y4 residential. For many of them, this was their first trip away from home overnight. A memorable event!

## SATs RESULTS

I am delighted to share with you our KS1 and KS2 SATs results (KS1 are shown on the last page). We have done really well when compared with both National and Cambridgeshire averages as you will see from the information below. The KS2 results are some of our best ever! Many congratulations to both children and staff on these great achievements. Following a focus on extending our more able pupils this year as identified in our School Development Plan, we have done particularly well at both Level 3 (KS1) and Level 5 (KS2).

### KS2 SATs

	English	Maths	Science
Level 4 and above	93%	93%	96%
Level 5	32%	50%	79%

(Level 4b is considered an average level at Y6)

## QUIET GARDEN

We have been working hard this year to begin to provide alternatives to the field and playground at break times. As you will remember, the Library is now open during breaks and I am pleased to announce that the Quiet Garden, which is located at the boundary side of the KS2 playground is now available for use. Mr Dunlop kindly donated a wooden garden bench which we have included and Mrs Lloyd and Mr Pudwell have been working with a number of children to clear the area and plant

a range of orchard trees and sunflowers. This is a fantastic new resource and one I am sure we will see develop and mature further over the next few years.

#### FRENCH BREAKFAST

Mrs Whitton hosted a French Breakfast for Y3 children this week when they had the opportunity to sample croissants, hot chocolate and brioche. This went down very well with the children and provided a suitable end to their study of French this year.



#### SWIMMING

The children have relished the opportunity to have an extended swimming season as I managed to install changing room heaters at Easter thereby allowing swimming to begin earlier. There are now lots of confident swimmers in evidence and the Reception children have made particularly quick progress.

We are running a crash course in swimming during the first week of the holidays allowing our great facility to be utilised by the community. Mrs Jo Moxham, one of our swimming instructors will run these courses and we still have limited places available if you are interested. Please contact the school office which will be manned during these sessions, if you would like more information.

#### CONTACT NUMBERS

If there have been any changes during the year to your personal details, please ensure that you keep the school notified of any change, especially home and mobile telephone numbers, in case of emergency.

#### MUSIC

Mrs O'Connor and I accompanied a group of our Y4 pocket trumpeters to represent Melbourn Primary in a national event in Newcastle. They performed at The Sage, Gateshead along with 300 other children and a professional (Premiership!) brass band: The Fishburn Brass Band. This was a fantastic event and the children appeared on TV as well as BBC Radio. There are photographs and video of the children on our website under "News".



During the same week, our Y3/4 children took part in the "Big Sing" at Melbourn Village College. All of the local cluster primary schools took part and many parents managed to attend to hear our performance.

#### UNIFORM

Please note there will be a slight increase in uniform prices from September 2009.

#### DINNER

From September the cost of a school dinner will increase to £2.00 per day. Should you wish to pay in advance, the half term total for after the summer holiday is £76.00 per child. Payment for the week should be given to your class teacher on Monday in a sealed envelope with your child's name and class. Free school meal forms are available from the school office if appropriate.

Please be aware that there will be a change to the dates on the printed menu leaflet for the first half of the Autumn Term (September to October half term). The dates for each week on the menu will be as follows:

- Week 1 - Weeks commencing: 31<sup>st</sup> August, 21<sup>st</sup> September, 12<sup>th</sup> October  
 Week 2 - Weeks commencing: 7<sup>th</sup> September, 28<sup>th</sup> September, 19<sup>th</sup> October  
 Week 3 - Weeks commencing: 14<sup>th</sup> September, 5<sup>th</sup> October

A new winter menu will start after October half term.

#### Y6 LEAVERS EVENT

Our Y6 children took part in a special Y6 event this week attending a BBQ and fun night along with their parents and school staff. Great fun was had by all, and some interesting and fun awards were made! Good luck to all of the children from Y6 in their new schools. We are very proud of your achievements and we will miss you!

Dates for Your Diary	
6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent's Evening
9 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Festival
12 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Book Week
23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Individual Photographs
26 <sup>th</sup> November – 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Book Fair
10 <sup>th</sup> & 11 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity
16 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Carol Service

#### FINALLY

As this will be my last newsletter I must add that it has been a privilege to head Melbourn Primary School during the past year. The children are a pleasure to work with and we have an effective and friendly team of staff and Governors at the school. Mr Casey and I have worked very closely together this year to move the school forward and I am sure that he will continue with the many initiatives we have started, along with a few new ones of his own. Miss Kapitan as Acting Deputy will provide able support and I am sure that the whole team, which of course includes you, will work in partnership to continue to improve things even further.

Have a great summer break.

Very best wishes,

Jacqueline Bell-Cook  
Headteacher