

# July Newsletter



Melbourn Primary School 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2010

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## Dear Parents and Carers,

I find it hard to believe that I am writing my last newsletter of the year. It really doesn't seem 11 months since I sat down and wrote the first one. A lot has certainly happened since September and I hope that your children have enjoyed their year at school.

## OFSTED

Please find attached a letter from OFSTED explaining why an expected inspection this year has not been carried out. Instead an interim assessment has taken place and states that the school's performance has been sustained and that the schools next inspection can be deferred.

## Comings and Goings

When the information about new class lists went out at the start of the month you were told that Mr Summer and Miss Reid would be moving to new schools for September and that Miss Moss would begin maternity leave. I would like to take this opportunity to wish them all the best for their future endeavours. Miss Coe, Mrs McCabe and Mrs Wilkie will be joining the school at the start of next term along with Mrs Unwin, who is returning from maternity leave. The children have had a chance to meet their new teachers and I am sure you will make them all feel welcome in September. Finally, Mrs Gibson, one of our long serving teaching assistants has also decided that new challenges await her and will no longer be working with us next year. We wish her all the best for the future endeavours.

Miss Glenn-Sansum who has worked in school providing cover for teachers this year will get married over the summer holidays and return in September as Mrs Youngs, the teacher of Hawking Class. We wish her and her partner all the best for their wedding in August. Mrs Lloyd who is currently teaching in Azure class with Mrs Gentle will be working 3 days a week in school next year providing cover for the KS2 teachers. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank Mrs Bryant who has been teaching in Turquoise Class since November. She has worked diligently alongside Mrs Benson and Mrs Leadbeter and I am pleased to say that she has agreed to stay with us next year providing cover for the KS1 teachers, 2 days a week.

## Year 3 and 4 Ukulele Concert

You would think that finding a rain free half an hour during one of the driest periods that has ever been recorded would be easy. However as the year 3 & 4 children picked up their ukuleles for their open air concert last Wednesday the heavens opened and the large number of parents sitting on their picnic blankets on the school field put up umbrellas and covered themselves in waterproof coats. Undeterred the children and their teachers played on much to the appreciation of the audience. The rock and roll numbers seemed to go down particularly well! It was fantastic to see and hear ninety children all play together and then perform in their class groups and with some inspired individual kazoo playing. I hope that many of the children will continue to play the ukulele at home and in school next year.



### New Build

Currently 14% of the building work has been completed and the project is on schedule. Time that was lost waiting for steel work has now been made up. On July 26<sup>th</sup> the builders will take possession of the old building and begin work on the Playgroup room, Children's Centre and staffroom areas. An entrance will be knocked through the music room end of the library to give access to the hall for the start of next term. If everything proceeds according to plan then we should have a new school hall, kitchen and offices by the end of the autumn term.

### Melbourn Playgroup

As some of you are aware Melbourn Playgroup will be moving onto the school site next year and will take up residence in the pre-school room which will be created in the space that used to be Scarlet Class, Mr Pudwell's office and the PE store. The school already has close links with the playgroup and their move onto the school site will strengthen those ties. Meetings between the school and playgroup have already occurred and we look forward to welcoming Jane and her team into their new building in 2011.

### Head-Lice

As I mentioned in my last news letter it has always been school policy to inform the parents by letter of any outbreak of head-lice. However after a discussion with the school nurse it is believed that this policy is no longer effective since it only leads to short term checking of children's hair and not the at least monthly checks that are essential. So it has been suggested that there should be a reminder in each monthly newsletter for parents to check their children's hair, so this is the second one.

### Key Stage 1 and 2 Teacher Assessments and SAT Results

In May of this year the children in Years 2 and 6 completed a series of national assessments the results of which can be seen in the tables below.

#### Key Stage 1

The table shows the percentage of eligible children in the school achieving each level at the end of key stage 1. The number of eligible children was 36

Teacher assessment									
Percentage at each level – (Figures may not total 100 per cent because of rounding.)									
	W	1	2	2C	2B	2A	3 or above	Disapplied children	Absent children
Speaking and listening*	0	0	56%				44%	0	0
Reading	0	11%		8%	22%	31%	28%	0	0
Writing	0	14%		11%	33%	22%	19%	0	0
Mathematics	0	6%		11%	22%	39%	22%	0	0
Science*	0	6%	50%				44%	0	0

'W' represents children who are working towards level 1, but have not yet achieved the standards needed for level 1. Results for speaking and listening and science are based on teacher assessment only.

### Key Stage 2

These tables show the percentage of pupils in the school achieving each level at the end of key stage 2. The number of pupils at the end of key stage 2 was 41

Teacher assessment									
Percentage at each level – (Figures may not total 100 per cent because of rounding.)									
	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	Pupils disappplied	Pupils absent
English	0	0	10%	17%	49%	24%	0	0	0
Speaking and listening	0	0	12%	12%	51%	24%	0	0	0
Reading	0	0	5%	22%	39%	34%	0	0	0
Writing	0	0	10%	17%	49%	24%	0	0	0
Mathematics	0	0	2%	27%	39%	32%	0	0	0
Science	0	0	2%	22%	56%	20%	0	0	0

Test results						
Percentage at each level – (Figures may not total 100 per cent because of rounding.)						
	Below level 3*	3	4	5	Pupils not entered <sup>#</sup>	Pupils absent
English	7%	17%	37%	39%	0	0
Reading	10%	7%	22%	61%	0	0
Writing	7%	32%	46%	15%	0	0
Mathematics	2%	22%	34%	41%	0	0

'W' represents pupils who are working towards level 1, but have not yet achieved the standards needed for level 1.

\* represents pupils who were not entered for the tests because they were working below level 3 in English or mathematics; pupils awarded a compensatory level from the tests and pupils entered for but not achieving a level from the tests.

# pupils working at the levels of the tests, but unable to access them.

**Reports and Open Evening**

The new format for the end of year reports has been greeted positively by parents and we will work hard to ensure some minor problems will not be repeated next year. I would also like to thank all the parents who attended the open evening earlier this month. It was good to see so many of you there especially since we were competing with a World Cup semi-final.

**School Dinners for the Autumn Term**

School dinner money should be handed in to your child's class teacher on a Monday in a sealed and named envelope. If you would like to pay on a half termly basis cheques can be written for £72 for the first half of the autumn term. Cheques should be made payable to Melbourn Primary School.

**Academy Status**

As you may have heard in the press the Government has asked school's which currently have an outstanding OFSTED grade to become Academies. The Governing body held a special meeting about this issue at the beginning of July and unanimously decided that at the present time there was no advantage to the school becoming an Academy. However this will be reviewed regularly as more details about the implications and process involved became clearer. The governors are interested in the views of parents about this issue and if you have an opinion about the school becoming or not becoming an academy then please write to the Chair of Governors expressing your views and hand the letter into the school office at the beginning of next term.

**Sports Day**

It was great to see so many parents at our sports morning. The children thoroughly enjoyed the round robin of activities and the competitive races. The winners were the Jelly Fish Team who managed to score over 400 points.

**And Finally...**

I would like to take the opportunity to wish all the children who are leaving the school at the end of term all the best for their future school careers. For many of them it will be their first change in school for seven years. Some will be ready to make the move while others will feel unsure and will need reassurance. However, after being part of the school now for almost 10 years, I know that those children will do us all proud and their achievements will gradually filter back to us. I hope you all have a relaxing summer break and for those of you who will not be moving on I look forward to seeing you in September.

Yours faithfully

Gary Casey  
Acting Headteacher

**Diary Dates for the Autumn Term****September**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September – School closed for teacher training

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September – Y1 – Y6 children return to school

(2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> September – Home visits to new Reception children)

**October**

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October – New to Year 1 Evening – 3.40pm – 4.30pm

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October – Parent Consultations – 3.40pm – 7pm  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October – Parent Consultations – 3.40pm – 6pm  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October – Harvest Assemblies  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October – Science Week  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October - Yr 3 & 4 - Science Museum visit  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October - Yr 1 & 2 - Science Museum visit  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October - Yr 5 & 6 - Science Museum visit  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October - Individual photographs  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – School closed for teacher training  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October – HALF TERM

### **November**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November – School closed for teacher training  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December - Book Fair

### **December**

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> / Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December - Reception & KS1 Nativity  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> / Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December - KS2 Carol Service  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December - Festive Fun Day and Christmas Dinner  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December - Last day of the autumn term