

# September Newsletter



Melbourn Primary School 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2009

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Melbourn Primary School, after a hopefully enjoyable summer. The year ahead looks very busy with new and returning faces amongst the staff and the proposed new build and Children's Centre.

I know that the beginning of a new school year brings with it a range of emotions and challenges especially if your children are starting school for the first time, changing Key Stage or changing Class Teacher. I am sure there will be some small teething problems as there is with any change but do not be afraid to discuss any problems with your child's Class Teacher; it is through good communication that we will be able to deal with any issues quickly.

## **Staffing**

I would like to take the opportunity to welcome, Gillian Curtis (Cobalt Class), Emily Reid (Amethyst Class) and David Summer (Jade Class) to the School. Verity Glenn-Sansum also joins us and she will be working with a range of classes across the school to facilitate teacher release time. I am sure in no time they will become familiar faces to you all and you will be welcoming and supportive as they get to grips with their new jobs. In addition, I am sure that support will also be extended to Miss Kapitan and myself as we settle into our new posts.

During the year a number of teachers who are currently on maternity leave will also return to the school and we will also say a temporary good bye, later on this term, to Mrs Constable as she begins maternity leave.

## **After School Clubs**

Our after school clubs will start running during the week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> September. All of these clubs will be free of charge and will be open to all children in the specified year groups. Individual permission letters will be sent out next week. Lunch time clubs will also begin shortly and a comprehensive list will be placed on the school web site.

## **Permission Forms**

Attached to this newsletter is a form asking your permission for your children to take part in a number of activities during the academic year.

As part of the School's ICT programme we offer pupils supervised access to the Internet. For the children to be allowed to use this tool, we must gain parental permission. Both they and you must sign and return the attached form as evidence of your approval and their acceptance of the School's rules on this matter. The School's internet system has a filter to restrict connection to unsuitable sites. We believe that the benefits to pupils from access to the internet in the form of information resources, exceed any disadvantages.

Also included on the form are two other permission slips. The first is a photography permission slip. This is to cover photographs of school events which may be taken during the school year and published in the press or on the School's web site. The second is an authorisation slip which covers the occasions when teachers may take children on walks in the School's vicinity in connection with a piece of work in which they are involved. Please complete and sign these slips.

### **School Uniform**

We have a wide range of uniform in school including fleece jackets that can be purchased. There has been a slight price increase on some clothing; a new price list is available from the school office. The uniform requirements are the same as last year and are listed below:-

#### **School Uniform**

Grey shorts / trousers or skirts  
Polo shirt / white shirt / blouse  
Maroon sweatshirt / cardigan  
(Summer dress is a red or maroon checked / striped gingham)  
Black shoes

#### **PE Kit**

Maroon PE shirt  
Black PE shorts  
Trainers / plimsolls

### **School Dinners**

The cost of school dinners has risen to £2.00 per meal and monies 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 £74 for the first half term.

### **Swine Flu**

Below is the official guidance from the government about swine flu which has been sent to schools.

#### **Message from the Secretary of State, Ed Balls**

We have been closely monitoring the spread and severity of swine flu over the school holidays. The latest scientific advice to the Government is that individual school closures are now of limited benefit in stopping the spread of disease.

Given the mildness of the virus, the expert medical advice is that there is no good reason for schools to remain closed after the summer holiday. We therefore expect all schools and early-years and childcare settings in England to reopen as planned at the beginning of the new term.

However, it is still essential that adults or children with flu-like symptoms should stay away until they are free of those symptoms. They should contact the National Pandemic Flu Service on 0800 1513 100 or at [www.direct.gov.uk/pandemicflu](http://www.direct.gov.uk/pandemicflu).

### **And Finally...**

I am pleased to inform you that Mrs Unwin gave birth to a baby girl named Libby during the summer holidays, mother and baby are both doing well.

Yours faithfully,

Gary Casey  
Acting Headteacher