

November Newsletter



Melbourn Primary School 6th November 2009

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a relaxing half term and that your children didn't consume too many sweets during the Halloween period. This weekend sees the PTFA's first major event of this academic year, the firework display, and I hope that the weather is better than for last year's event and look forward to seeing many of you there.

Staffing

As many of you are aware we said a temporary goodbye to Andrea Constable as she left us to go on maternity leave and we look forward to hearing good news from her soon.

At the same time we welcome back Alice Leadbeter who some of you may already know and welcome Caroline Bryant who has worked with us previously as a supply teacher both will be jointly teaching Turquoise class.



Harvest Festivals

The school has appreciated the positive feedback we received after the harvest assemblies on the 9th October and as I said on the day there were some very proud parents at the end of the children's performances. Your very kind donations of food were taken to Vicarage Close by three members of staff and six members of the School Council. I would like to take the opportunity to share with you the kind message the school received.

To staff, parents and children of Melbourn Primary School.
The residents of Vicarage Close would like to say a big "Thank you" for the harvest produce,
which is much appreciated by everyone here.
A special thanks to the children who so carefully carried the produce into the centre.
With best wishes from us all.
Joy Hyde and the 30 residents of Vicarage Close.

Parent Questionnaires

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the parents who completed one of the questionnaires sent out just before half term. They have given the school much to think about and you have raised a number of issues that we will hopefully be able to deal with in the near future. More information about the results of the questionnaires and actions to be taken will be in the next newsletter.

Book Busters Week

The children clearly enjoyed their chance to "Dress to Impress" on Friday 16th October as they sat around the red carpet in the hall to watch the films they had produced during Book Busters Week. I don't think I have seen so many bow ties, waist coats and party dresses in one place. Classes produced animations, acted in videos and produced PowerPoint presentations on a range of books including the Little Red Hen, Fungus the Bogeyman and Please Mrs Butler. During the week I saw lessons on themes such as recycling, animal habitats, scenery making and script writing, all of them linked to the books the classes had studied. I hope that the next two "pause weeks" we have planned during the year are as successful.

After School Clubs

The following after school clubs will finish next week – Year 5 & 6 football on Mondays, Year 3 & 4 football on Tuesdays and KS2 Netball Club on Thursdays. These dates were listed on the initial letters that were sent out at the start of term. KS2 Dance Club, KS2 Choir and KS2 Musical Theatre will continue into December. Letters will go out next week for two KS1 after school clubs. After school on Tuesday will be Year 1 & 2 indoor football club and on Thursday there will be a KS1 multi-skills club. Both clubs will run from 3.25pm – 4.30pm in the school hall, will be free of charge and will be run by Mr Harnwell's company. Each club will be limited to 16 members and places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

School Dinners

You should by now have received a copy of the new school menu, which will run until the Easter holidays. Occasionally it is necessary for the kitchen to change the menu, such as when there is a 'Special lunch' that week, but they try to keep the changes to a minimum. Last term Cambridgeshire County Council altered the menus and we apologise for not informing you about this. Menus are also available on our school website.

School dinner money should be handed into 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 £70 for this half term.

Internet Safety Evening

If you watch or listen to the news regularly you will be aware of the growing concerns about children and their safe use of the internet. On Tuesday 17th November the school will be holding a meeting about children and internet safety. The meeting will start at 7pm and will be held in the school hall. Due to the nature of the meeting and the discussions involved, it would not be appropriate for children to attend. More information about the meeting will be sent out in due course.

And Finally...

If you still wish to order school photographs, please ensure envelopes are returned to the school office by the end of Monday 9th November.

Yours faithfully

Gary Casey
Acting Headteacher