



Dear Parents/Carers

A massive big thank you to everyone for your generosity in our fundraising for the Haiti earthquake appeal. In particular a big thank you to Rahma and Grace in Year 6 for their idea to run a cake sale, assisted by Paige and Derin. It ran over two afternoons, and was very well supported - thank you to everyone who sent in some really yummy cakes! As a result of this sale, the girls have added an amazing £149.70 to the fund, giving us a final total of £657.24!

With half term fast approaching, there is some information from Milton Keynes Sports Development below about some really interesting activities they are running during that week. Do have a look at their website for more detail so you can book now.

Rev. Nick Adlem is running his "Surviving Parenthood" evenings starting again at school on Tuesday 2nd February from 7.15pm to 8.15pm. It is a time for parents and carers to meet and share some of their experiences and concerns and with the help of a DVD to explore some techniques that other parents have found useful in reducing stress and encouraging their children. If you are interested in coming along, call Rev. Nick on 01908 521863 or email: nickadlem@tiscali.co.uk .

Wishing you all a great weekend

Mrs Anne Hamilton
Headteacher

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'Swine Flu Alert'
Please keep alert for symptoms and contact your GP or NHS direct for advice if necessary.



Sports Development - February Half Term Activities

Milton Keynes Sports Development are running activities for young people aged 4-16 years every day throughout the February Half Term (Monday 15-Friday 19 February).

Activities include : Indoor Athletics, Fame Dance Academy, Badminton, Street Dance, Basketball, Cheerleading and Disability Multi Sports/Cheer and Dance.

For example, FAME! Dance Academy runs two sessions for 4-8 year olds and 9-13 year olds, for an hour every day during the half term week at the Sports Hall, Tattenhoe Pavilion, at a cost of only £10 for the week. The children learn moves from the film and learn a full routine that they will perform to parents on the last day!

For more information and to download a booking form, either go to: <http://www.miltonkeynes.gov.uk/sportsdev> or contact Chloe Bond on 01908 252278



HEADLICE PREVENTION - WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Our Parent Council have asked if you can all be reminded of the importance of checking your child for headlice, and for treating them if needed. This is the only way that the cycle can be broken. Can we also please ask that any children who have long hair come to school with it tied back, as this is also helpful in preventing any spread of headlice. Thank you!

A SUCCESSFUL MATHS WORKSHOP - WEDNESDAY 27 JANUARY

Thank you to everyone who attended the Maths Workshop on Wednesday evening with Maths Consultant Jo Anderson. We have received a lot of positive feedback from parents who found the session very useful in understanding how maths is taught in school today to help their child at home with their continued learning. Here are some of the comments made after the session:



"It's 50 years since I went to school, so we've stopped counting conkers and matchsticks! This was a real eye opener and will be a great help in teaching my child"

"Now everything is much clearer and more logical.."

"I will stop telling my child off for adding on when they're doing subtraction"



Phonics for Parents of Foundation Stage Children



When? Tuesday 2nd February 6.30-7.15pm

Where? The School

Who for? Parents of children in Foundation Stage



How does my child learn to read and spell?

It's not like it was when I was at school. How do you do it now, and why has it changed?

What is a phoneme? A grapheme? Why are these words important?

How can I help my child at home?

What is the THRASS chart, and how does it work?

Do you have similar questions? Come to this presentation and workshop which will explore issues in phonics teaching and learning and explain how we 'put it into practice' here at Christ the Sower Primary School.

For more information, please see Tracey Feil (Literacy Leader) or Sarah Brown (Early Years Leader).

Watch this space for more events like this later this academic year.

SCHOOL CALENDAR DATES 2010

Tuesday 2nd February	THRASS/Phonics workshop for Foundation and KS1 parents (6.30pm)
Tuesday 2nd February	"Surviving Parenthood" - Rev Nick Adlem (7.15-8.15pm)
Thursday 4th February	"Friends and Heroes" - After school event run by Rev Nick Adlem(3.15-4.30pm)
Thursday 4th February	Open Forum - ALL WELCOME (7.00pm)
Friday 5th February	Thistle Class Collective Worship (9.00am)
W/C Monday 8 February	NO CLUBS THIS WEEK
10th and 11th February	Parent Carer Consultation Evenings
Friday 12 February	Friends Together School DISCO
Friday 12 February	Break up for HALF TERM Holiday
Monday 22 February	Back to school - clubs start again
Wednesday 24 February	Parent Workshop "Praise & Criticism" 7-8pm
Friday 5 March	Wheat Class Collective Worship (9.00am)
Friday 12 March	Barley Class Collective Worship (9.00am)
Wednesday 24 March	Parent Workshop "Feelings and what we do with them " 7-8pm



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