



The Priory Primary School

Pamber End, Tadley,

Hants, RG26 5QD.

Telephone: 01256 850062

www.theprioryprimaryschool.org



Dear Parents,

18th February, 2011

Here we are once again at the end of a very busy half term. We are very glad that, unlike last year, we have not had to close due to snow – let's hope that this remains the case for the rest of the Spring Term!

Calling all interested Year 5 parents and children!

I have received a letter inviting children in Year 5, both **boys** and girls, to attend a special day of interesting activities for gifted and talented children at The Abbey later in the Summer Term. The activities will all take place within the school day and will be led by some of The Abbey's specialists. If you would be interested in your child taking part, please could you let us know by Wednesday, 2nd March so that we can make the appropriate arrangements.

Help required with playground supervision

You may have heard that we are making improvements to our playground provision. We are trialling a rota system which allows junior children to play football between 12 and 12.30pm and the infants between 12.30 and 1.00pm. The idea behind this is that it allows the fewer children more room to play and, because we have created specific zones, it allows other children to play more safely. Between 1 and 1.15pm we are encouraging all children to play imaginative games, traditional playground games, chasing games etc. We also have a box of equipment that is being operated as a lending library. The various bits of equipment are borrowed by an individual and the items are then signed out and back.

As we are very fortunate to have a playground at the front of the school, we would like to use this, at least for part of the lunchtime, as a quieter area where the children could read or chat or play card games. In order to staff this area, we would be very interested to hear from any parents who could volunteer their time to possibly help us out. If you are interested in helping us to maximise our lovely (but under used) outdoor space, we would be delighted to hear from you!

Rewards for good behaviour

We are very proud of the children's behaviour but just occasionally we find they need a little reminder to keep them "on track"! We have been focusing on the children's behaviour at lunchtime, particularly in the dining room, and we have been particularly encouraging the use of good manners and we have also been praising the children for maintaining a smart appearance (top button fastened, tie neatly done, shirt tucked in etc). The latter can be quite a big feat for the children, especially when they have been playing out or taking part in PE lessons! Each week, we are going to nominate the best behaved and tidiest class and they will be rewarded with a batch of cookies from the kitchen. I am pleased to say that the first winners are the children in Year 2!

Apologies for confusion about Red Nose Day

Many apologies to those of you who thought we were celebrating Red Nose Day today, according to the website. This was obviously a mistake on our part and we will be celebrating (with the rest of the country) on Friday March 18th. Sorry





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Speaking and Listening Competition

This year our Speaking and Listening competition is based around the theme of 'Fairy Tales and Nursery Rhymes'. The children are invited to perform a short reading linked to the heats which are due to take place on the morning of Tuesday 1st March.

The finalists from each class will be performing in the hall on the morning of Friday 4th March (World Book Day). Parents of the finalists are very welcome to attend although we politely request that they do not leave the hall until the very end of the key stage session as it can be very disruptive to the children taking part.

Key stage one will begin at 8:50am and will last approximately half an hour. Key stage two will begin at 9:30am and should be finished by morning break.

To further enhance the spirit of World Book Day, we are inviting children to dress up as characters from their favourite fairy tales and nursery rhymes. We are requesting a minimum donation of £1.00 for this non-uniform day (if you would like to donate more with which you could sponsor a book then it would be greatly received) as the proceeds are going to library. As you may be aware, the infant reading scheme has recently been revamped. Now we are turning our attention to books to support a fluid transition between key stages.

We hope that you enjoy choosing and rehearsing your piece for our annual competition. Good Luck!

Whether you are at home or going away, I wish you all a very happy half term holiday and look forward to seeing you and your children on Tuesday, 1st March.

Kind regards,

Suzanne Kelly

