



ELMBRIDGE JUNIOR SCHOOL

4/9/09

Dear Parents

Welcome back after the summer break. I hope you managed to make the most of the holidays despite the weather! I am delighted with the improvements made to enhance our school environment even further, especially with the new dining hall and music studio windows, and repainted seating area on the playground. We have also had the reception area, new office and staff room redecorated and the hall and music room now have an interactive whiteboard, projector and sound system installed.

We also welcome any new children to our school including, of course, the Year 3 children. As I have stated in previous newsletters, I try to make myself available at the beginning of each day in the playground but if you prefer a more private discussion, then please feel free to make an appointment at the office.

I am pleased to say that both Mrs Harvey and Mrs Brooks are now fit and well after a period of absence. We welcome them back to the team. We have also appointed Mrs Hardman as a teaching assistant assigned to one of our pupils in Year 4.

Clubs

Next week, we will be sending a list of extra-curricular clubs for the year. If you are interested in helping to run a club and are willing to be police checked, could you let the office know. At present, we will be offering football, gymnastics, judo, cross country, sewing, choir, orchestra, recorders, country dancing and 'rock school'. More details to follow...

Community News

I have enclosed copies of Gloucester City Council's autumn and winter programme and details of a Health Walk scheme with this newsletter.

Reminders

Please let the office know of any change of personal details/contact numbers as soon as possible.

Please notify the school if your child will be late for any reason, indicating whether they require a school meal. Hot dinners are £2.00 per day and our preferred method of payment is on-line. Please contact Mrs Maynard at the office if you have any queries. Thank you.

If your child suffers from asthma, please ensure that your child keeps an inhaler with them and also supply a spare one (labelled) for the school office, in case of emergencies. Thanks.

Communication

Please use the home-school diary for messages to and from the class teacher. Please do not use it for holiday requests or reasons for absence. It is important that it is in school every day.

We try very hard to inform parents regularly about what's going on at the school and issue a newsletter to parents every two weeks. Paper letters sometimes go astray on the way home and we are increasingly aware of the environmental impact and substantial costs involved in photocopying so are now subscribing to a service called ParentMail®. This service forwards communication to parents by email and text message. ParentMail® is registered with the Data Protection Registrar and guarantees that all information supplied will be kept private. There is also NO advertising associated with the scheme.

Our data is currently being imported and updated by ParentMail® and we anticipate being able to send our next newsletter to parents via e-mail. If you have not already completed a form and decide that you would like to receive school communication through ParentMail® please obtain a copy from the school office or, alternatively, download a copy from our school website www.elmbridgejuniorschool.co.uk. Paper copies will of course still be sent home with those pupils whose parents decline to participate. Copies of letters and other school information can also be found on our school website.

Finally, please find enclosed a calendar of key events and term dates for the year.

Best wishes



Glen Tharia
Head Teacher