



ABBAS AND TEMPLECOMBE
Church of England V.C. PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Newsletter Autumn 2008 (01)

Dear Parents/Guardians

Welcome back to school after our long summer break. The children all look 'well rested' and smart, ready for the new school year. A particular welcome to our new children and their parents. We hope you will be very happy in our school community and assure you of our best intentions for your child at all times. Please do not hesitate to call in if you are unsure of any aspect of your child's education. We are very much looking forward to working with you.

A list of important dates for the term is included with this letter together with a 2008/9 academic year calendar with teacher training dates marked.

Environmental Area/Raised Vegetable Bed

As you may have noticed, we have begun work on our Environmental Area and created a raised vegetable growing area. We would like a few parent volunteers to help us work with adults from the 'Well Bean' Project in Wincanton to really begin to prepare the area for planting. Would you please let me know if you could spare even a little time on either (or both!) of Monday 15th September at 1.30pm and/or Monday 29th September at 1.30pm

Healthy Living Meeting ~ Thursday 25th September at King Arthur's School

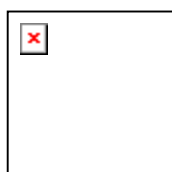
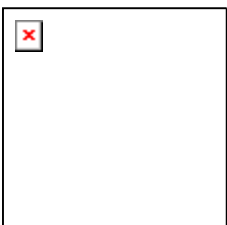
We are all invited to a jointly planned 'Healthy Living' evening which will take place at King Arthur's School on 25th September at 7pm. It will be a very important event which will cover internet safety/drugs education and other issues related to the wellbeing of our children. All primary and secondary schools have been invited. Please let me know if you would find it difficult to get to the school and I will try to arrange transport.

Breakfast Club

A reminder that Mrs Wendy Phillips runs a breakfast club at school each morning from 8:15am in the school kitchen. At present there are some available places, so please contact Mrs Phillips if you wish to use this service. (£1.50 per day)

After School Activities ~ commencing week beginning 15th September

The new after school clubs programme will be available early next week. Please support your child in making their selections and return the form as soon as possible. As always, we will be as fair as possible about the allocation of places. Reception children find school very tiring to begin with and therefore we do not encourage them to take part in after school activities.



Head Lice

In our efforts to control the spread of head lice, which are reported to be widespread across the nation's schools, can I remind you of the need to fine comb your child's hair following the normal application of shampoo and conditioner, at least twice a week. There is no need to use harsh chemicals if this is carried out thoroughly. If all parents follow these steps, we will be nearer to being a 'bug free' school.

Peanut allergies

We have a number of pupils in school at present who are highly allergic to peanut oil and associated products. Contact with such products is life threatening for these children, therefore, as in the past, can I please ask for your reassurance that any products associated with peanuts or peanut oil are not brought into school under any circumstances.

Hot School Meals

Hot school meals continue to be available daily, at a reasonable cost. Please see Debbie Mole or contact the school office for the menu and costs.

Absences

If your child is ill and unable to attend school it is vital that you report the absence to the school office as soon as possible before 9:30am. As a school we have to "chase" reasons for absence as per Government guidelines and therefore we contact you via the first two contact numbers supplied by yourself on data information sheets. Please keep the school office up to date with these contact numbers. This is our only way of ensuring that children are at home with a parent when not able to attend school.

Walk to School Wednesdays

Walk to school Wednesdays will begin again next Wednesday, until the end of September, whilst the weather holds. Mr Higgins will meet accompanied children at the recreation ground at 8.35am.

Parent Governors

We have vacancies for Parent Governors. Anybody interested should please see Mrs Cutler in the school office.

Car Boot Sale ~ 20th September 10am~1pm

The Friends are holding a car boot sale in the school grounds on Saturday 20th September, from 10am to 1pm. Cost is £5 per pitch. Please contact the school office for more information.

National Test Results for Year 6 Pupils 2008

As you may have heard from the national press, there were many problems with the marking arrangements made for the Year 6 tests (SATs). Fortunately our results did arrive back at school and once again we were very pleased with the results, which reflect the hard work of the pupils and staff. (Figures in brackets represent national comparisons 2007):

English	95% (80%) of our pupils achieved level 4 (the level set by the government for pupils of this age) 65% (33%) of pupils achieved level 5 (exceeded government expectations).
Mathematics	95% (78%) of pupils achieved level 4 60% (33%) of pupils achieved level 5
Science	100% (87%) of pupils achieved level 4 75% (46%) of pupils achieved level 5

We are particularly pleased with the high number of pupils exceeding national expectations.

Looking forward to a very busy, but enjoyable term ahead. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or myself if you have any comments or concerns about your child's education.

Yours sincerely

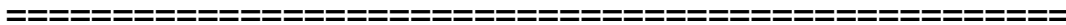
Bernie Green
Head teacher

Enc: Important dates, Academic Year Calendar

Diary Dates for the Autumn Term 2008

3 rd September	School closed – Staff Training
4 th September	Return to school
4 th September	Swimming begins for Topaz Class
15 th September	1.30pm ‘Well Bean’ Project for Environmental Area. Volunteers welcome!
20 th September	10am~1pm Car Boot Sale
25 th September	Schools Prom rehearsal at Compton Dundon Village Hall (specific children)
25 th September	7pm Healthy Living Meeting at King Arthur’s School
29 th September	1.30pm ‘Well Bean’ Project for Environmental Area. Volunteers welcome!
10 th October	Schools Prom rehearsal at Compton Dundon Village Hall (specific children)
15 th October	2pm Ashley Wood Photographer
17 th October	Harvest Festival Service at 2.30pm ~ St Mary’s Church
22 nd October	Schools Prom rehearsal at The Gateway, Yeovil (specific children)
24 th October	2pm M&M Productions (Childrens’ Theatre) ~ “Pinocchio”
24 th October	School closes for Half Term break

Half Term break ~ Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October



3 rd November	School closed - Staff Training
4 th November	School re-opens
8 th November	Schools Prom rehearsal at The Gateway, Yeovil (specific children)
11 th November	4pm~6pm Parents’ Evening and Scholastic Book Fair
12 th November	6pm~8pm Parents’ Evening and Scholastic Book Fair
4 th December	Digby Hall Carol Concert
9 th December	1.30pm Nativity performance
10 th December	6.30pm Nativity performance
15 th December	1.30pm Whole school Theatre Visit ~ Sleeping Beauty ~ Octagon Theatre
18 th December	Christmas parties
19 th December	1.45pm End of term Service at St Mary’s Church
19 th December	School closes for Christmas break
5 th January	School closed – Staff Training

School Reopens for Spring Term on 6th January 2009

