

1st December 2009

Dear Parents

It is hard to believe we are now in December. This term, which is the longest of the school year, seems to have flown by.

Miss Evans has made an excellent start as a teacher at Much Marcle school. I know she has enjoyed her first term with her own class and the children have enjoyed their first term with her. The reception children have settled into school beautifully and all the other children have risen to the challenge of their new year groups. The year sixes are showing the maturity and responsibility we knew they would, particularly with their support of the new children in school.

We have had some interesting planned events and some unforeseen happenings this term. And it is not over yet! In September we had a lively welcome disco for new families. This was very good fun thanks to DJ Lee. The children are excited that he will be reappearing for the Christmas disco this Thursday 3rd December.

Also appearing at the disco will be last year's year six pupils. They have been invited to attend to let us know how they are enjoying life in year seven. Thank you to the PTA for organising these events. Many of our planned football and netball matches have had to be cancelled because of the weather this term. We are hoping to catch up with fixtures next term.

This term we have only managed one fixture against Eastnor which was played last week. The scores were:

Football Much Marcle 8 v Eastnor 0

Netball Much Marcle 8 v Eastnor 3

As most of you know Mr Greaves' son Fin had an unfortunate accident which kept him in hospital for four weeks. I am please to say that Fin is now home and making a good recovery.

<u>Christmas Play</u>

The rehearsals for the Christmas production are well under way. We have had some moments of panic when we were thinking of casting to include the staff! Fortunately all the children are now well and attendance is back to normal. The dress rehearsal will be on Tuesday 8th December at 10.00am. Nursery children will be attending. Grandparents and Parents of toddlers are welcome to attend this final practice. The performances will be on Wednesday and Thursday 9th and 10th at 2.00pm.

Carol Service

Our community Carol service will be on Tuesday 15th December at 6.00 pm. Some of the older children who play an instrument will be performing and the whole school will be singing some well known Christmas favourites. There will be mince pies and mulled wine available. All contributions will go to the PTA.

<u>Christmas</u>

In school we celebrate Christmas during the last week of term only. Children and staff who want to wear Christmas hats and decorations can do so that week. From Monday 14th we post our cards and presents in the school letter box. Although they are sorted every day they are not delivered until the last day. On Friday the whole school assembles in the hall to receive their cards and presents. We all sit in our class groups to open them together. It is loud and exciting, and lots of fun.

We all will eat our Christmas lunch in the school hall on Thursday 17th. Everybody eats a cooked Christmas lunch together on this one special day in the year. If you have not ordered your child's lunch please do so by Friday 4th December. We do not want anyone to be left out.

Road Safety Officers

Our road safety officers are running regular competitions to raise awareness about important road safety rules. Do encourage your children to complete the activities and discuss the safety messages with them.

Forest Schools Bid

We are pleased to inform you that we have successfully bid for funding to become a Forest School. Forest Schools originated in Scandinavia in the 1950s and were introduced to Great Britain in the 1990s. They provide an excellent opportunity to bring 'learning to life', allowing children to explore and learn in a constructive way through hands on experience in a woodland environment.

We are very grateful to Adam Munthe of Hellens House for permission to use part of Halls wood for our activities and for his continued support for our school.

Important Dates

December

- 2nd Last swimming session Class 4
- 3rd Christmas Disco Class 3 Shakespeare Workshop
- 8th ACTS II Assembly Play Dress Rehearsal - 10.00am
- 9th Play 2.00pm
- 10th Play 2.00pm
- 11th PTA Christmas Fair Brook Farm
- 14th Class 3 Tudor Day
- 15th Carol Concert 6.00pm
- 17th School Christmas Lunch
- 18th Break up today

January

- 4th Back to School
- 12th PTA Meeting 3.30pm in school