



# CHECKENDON CE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

11<sup>th</sup> November 2011

## Swimming in Pyjamas

### Swimming Lessons – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> November, Rhino and Panda Classes

The children will be learning about personal survival for the next two weeks in their swimming lessons. Could you please ensure that your child brings to school a set of **LIGHTWEIGHT** pyjamas (not shorts or nightdresses) to wear in the pool.

## Fireworks Night

Fireworks over Checkendon was a great success raising £900! The School Association would like to say a big thank you to everyone who helped including:

All of the parents who helped set-up, run stalls, light fireworks, and clear away afterwards.  
Everyone who donated a cake or tombola prize.

Paul and Evelyn Burrows from the Highwayman for organising the barbeque.

Laws Floors for donating and delivering some carpet.

Waitrose for donating the pumpkins.

Butler and Proctor for their help with fencing off equipment.

Jim McLoughlin for co-ordinating the fireworks.

Mrs McEvoy and Mrs McClure for running the bar.

The Equestrian Centre, The Four Horseshoes, and Blue Tin Produce for donating raffle prizes.

And of course thanks to all of the committee members and everyone who came along!

Well done everyone!

## Mrs Julia Cawthraw

We would like to thank you, on Julia's behalf, for all your kind wishes, and are sending a card and flowers on behalf of everyone associated with the school to wish her a speedy recovery. As yet we do not know the date of her return but in the meantime we would like to thank Mrs Hughes for stepping in and doing such a wonderful job in Owlets.

## Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> November

Parents may have heard that school staff will be on strike on Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> November, and that many schools will be closed, however **Checkendon School plans to remain open!**

## Voluntary Contributions to Special Events and School Trips

The school is not allowed to make parental contributions to school visits and special events on site mandatory, and although there is a small amount of funding set aside to support those parents who, for financial reasons, are unable to fund these events, the school cannot afford to subsidise trips on a regular basis. It is against school policy to exclude a child from an activity because his or her parents are unable to provide the finances, so, if it looks as though the takings are not going to cover the costs of the trip, teachers will have to consider cancelling the event and possibly reducing the number of activities in the future. We would appreciate it, therefore, if you could let us know as soon as possible if you have difficulty funding a proposed trip or special event, so that the teacher can plan accordingly.

## School Lunches

Please could you ensure that when paying for school lunches you send a cheque for the exact amount of meals ordered as we do not hold any cash at school to provide change.

### **Writing Week 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> November – ‘Checkendon Museum of Curiosities’**

Please bring your objects for the ‘Checkendon Museum of Curiosities’ to your child’s class on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> or Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November. Class teachers will catalogue each object and keep a record of the owners of the items. The objects will be handled by children as well as displayed in the museum, so please do not lend us anything too fragile or precious!

## ‘Ground Force’ Day

The governors are organising a school grounds ‘clear-up’ day on Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> November, between 10.30am and 12.30pm. We will be spreading bark beneath the climbing frame, leaf clearing and having a general tidy up. If you can spare an hour or so to lend a hand please do come along and join us. More details can be obtained from Tony Kerry, school governor.

### **Dates for your Diary**

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November  
Mon 21<sup>st</sup> – Fri 25<sup>th</sup> November  
Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November  
Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November  
**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November**  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December  
Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December  
Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December  
Mon 14<sup>th</sup> – Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> May

KS2 children to bring in pyjamas for swimming lesson  
Writing Week  
Mobile Library (last before Christmas)  
KS2 children to bring in pyjamas for swimming lesson  
2.45pm Parents invited to visit classrooms/museum  
**Order/Payment Deadline for School Lunches for next 3 wks**  
6.30 pm Christmas Service in Church  
Visiting Theatre – “Alice in Wonderland”  
Last day of Term 2  
SATs weeks