



CHECKENDON CE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

16th June 2010

Opening of the new classroom

The sun smiled on us for the opening of the new classroom last Friday, and we would like to thank everyone who helped make the event a success.

Thanks, therefore, go to the children for their excellent behaviour on the day, the governors for organising the event, the staff for all the preparations in school, the School Association for the afternoon refreshments, the parents for their support throughout, Paul and Evelyn at The Highwayman, for providing the refreshments, Mary Daniels for the music in church, Charlotte Snowden for the official photographs, Katrina Collett for writing the report for the Checkendon Newsletter, the bell ringers for ringing at the beginning and end of the service and of course, Bishop John, for his thought provoking and topical address in church and for officiating at the opening itself. It was wonderful to see some old Checkendon pupils (Pearl Wilcox, Tim Corbishley and Doug Griggs) at the event, and to meet Gus Gray, son of past headteacher Mary Gray, to whom the library is dedicated.

Checkendon Art Exhibition

We were very proud to see the children's art work displayed at the village art exhibition, and would like to thank Tim Corbishley and the Village Hall Committee for making this possible. Tim tells me that he received many very positive comments from the weekend visitors to the exhibition. Unsold pictures will be stored in the library until the end of the month, so if you decide that you would like to buy your child's picture, please contact a member of staff or the school office. Cheques (for £12 per picture) should be made payable to 'Checkendon Village Hall'.

Sports Activities

Since September 2009 we have provided a range of specialist sports coaching in school. Provision has included multi-skills for Owls, athletics coaching for Owls, Pandas and Rhinos, tag rugby coaching for Pandas, tennis coaching for Owls, Pandas and Rhinos, a football coaching day for the whole school and cricket coaching for Pandas and Rhinos. These are in addition to the swimming lessons provided for Key Stage 2 in the autumn term, cycle safety training for Rhinos and the curriculum PE lessons taken by school staff.

We have also taken part in a number of inter-school sports events, including football for Rhinos, an athletics tournament for Rhinos, a tennis festival for Pandas and Rhinos and a Key Stage 2 swimming gala. A Year 6 rounders event is planned for the end of this term. Some other inter-school activities had to be cancelled due to bad weather, or in the case of the girls' football, because there were not enough pupils interested in joining the team.

Extra-curricular activities have included football, judo, athletics and bike skills. We did offer other extra-curricular activities, including multi-skills, tag rugby and cricket. However, there was not enough interest in these to make them viable, even though some of them were free of charge. We hope that, in the case of clubs with a charge, parents will contact the school if they feel that they would like some help meeting the fees.

In order to help us plan for 2010/11 we would be interested to know which sporting clubs you would like and when. If you would like to contribute to the discussion please contact a member of staff or drop us a line.

Holidays for 2010 / 2011

The Government has granted all primary schools an additional INSET (In-service training) day for 2011. The purpose of this day is to allow teachers time to review their curriculum. We have decided to take this additional day on 6th June, 2011. A revised 'holiday dates calendar' for 2010/11 is attached.

Circus

THE CIRCUS AND FETE ARE COMING TO TOWN. Please keep the afternoon and evening of Thursday 24 June for the big tent circus coming to school - all profits will go towards YOUR SCHOOL. Make sure you get your tickets, available at Checkendon Post Office, Stoke Row shop, Woodcote Londis, Peppard Store or Londis. You can also buy tickets from PTA members at the school gate. The last time the circus came to the Village we sold out so get in early!! We will have stalls, BBQ and Bar in addition to the Big Top.

To make it a success please SPREAD THE WORD AROUND TO YOUR FRIENDS – WE STILL NEED TO SELL TICKETS!

Please continue to bring in tombola, raffle, lucky dip prizes. Cakes next week.

Michael Ives, Checkendon School Association Chair

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 23 rd June	Year 6 – Langtree Taster Day
Thursday 24 th June	6.00 pm onwards Circus
Tuesday 29 th June	Festival of Voices
Friday 2 nd July	Sports Day
Wednesday 7 th July	Last Mobile Library
Friday 9 th July	Reserve Sports Day
Wednesday 14 th July	2.00 pm "The Tempest" KS2 Summer Production
Thursday 15 th July	6.30 pm "The Tempest" KS2 Summer Production
Wednesday 21 st July	Leavers' Service in Church (2.00 pm)
Thursday 22 nd July	Last day of Term