

CHECKENDON

C of E (A) Primary School
Checkendon
Reading, RG8 0SR

Headteacher: Mary Bather



News & Information

24th November 2008

MP Visit

John Howell, our local MP, visited the school on the afternoon of Friday, 21st November. He talked to Rhinos and Pandas about his job and answered lots of tricky questions. We were very proud of the way the children handled the discussion – perhaps there are some budding politicians amongst them. Later there was an opportunity for him to tour the school, and discuss issues relating to rural primary schools with the Governors. Mr Howell commented that it was a 'delight to be in such a friendly and well-run school'.

House Points

After much deliberation, we have decided to name our houses after famous Oxfordshire people. As you can imagine, it was difficult to narrow the contenders down to four, but the final selection is as follows:

- Redgrave** (red) after Steve Redgrave
- Churchill** (blue) after Winston Churchill
- Christie** (green) after Agatha Christie
- Hawking** (yellow) after Stephen Hawking

From this week staff will be awarding house points in recognition of positive behaviour in class and at break and lunchtimes. The 'House Cup', kindly presented by Eliza Kirby's family, will be awarded at the end of each long term to the house with the most points.

KS2 Pottery Club

We will be starting a pottery club for KS2 pupils after Christmas. The first session is on Monday, 12th January, from 3.20pm to 4.20pm. The course fee is £30.00 for 10 sessions. If you are interested in booking a place on the course, please fill in and return the form on the attached leaflet.

Church Roof

As you may be aware, Checkendon Church roof is in need of repair, and so a church roof restoration fund has been established. Jill Playford and Vanessa Hart are selling china (mugs, coasters and thimbles) in aid of the fund. If you would like to buy an item with a picture of the church on it, and support the fund at the same time, these items will be on sale after the KS1 Production on the afternoon of Wednesday, 10th December. Prices are as follows:

China mugs £8.00

China coasters £6.00

China thimbles £2.50

Earthenware mugs £5.00

Christmas Carols and Mince Pies at the Four Horseshoes

Another way to support the church is to go along at 5pm, on Saturday, 20th December, to the Christmas Carols at the Four Horseshoes in Checkendon. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served.

After-school care

We would like to thank everyone who returned the questionnaire about before and after-school care. The information has been collated and we are now considering the findings. In the meantime, do contact us if you have difficulty in finding appropriate child care, and we will try to provide you with some contacts.

Help!!!

We are in desperate need of an additional lunch time controller, to work one or more days a week. Please do get in touch if you think you could help us out and do pass on the message to anyone you know who you think may be interested.

From the School Association

This year we are pleased to be able to help the staff to organise a Traditional Children's Christmas Party on the 18th December in the afternoon. More details will follow in the next Newsletter but needless to say we think all the children will thoroughly enjoy themselves. We are hoping to have lots of games, a party tea and if we're very lucky Father Christmas has put us into his diary!

In January the School Association has arranged a night out at the Four Horseshoes in Checkendon. This is a great chance for all parents to come and enjoy the company of other parents, to come and make new friends and have a great evening without the children! Please put the date in your diary and come and join us to an entertaining night out.

Another date for your diary: we will be holding the ever popular Quiz Night on the 20th March 2009. This is always a good laugh and is open to anyone and everyone. Please help support the evening, put the date in your diary and encourage friends and family to come along too.

Finally, the School Association is in desperate need for some help. From next term will not have a Secretary or a Treasurer. Due to the terms of the committee it is not possible for committee members to hold two positions, so if we are going to continue to function and help the school we need help. If anyone is willing to help out, please do come and have a chat or contact me on Henrietta.harrison@hpa.org.uk.

Thank you

Ben Harrison

On Behalf of the School Association

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 27 th November	“Big Sing” – simultaneous sing for Guinness Book of Records
Friday 28 th November	Yrs 3 & 4 Athletics Festival at Langtree
Friday 5 th December	Yrs 5 & 6 Athletic practice at Langtree (for event in January)
Monday 8 th December	Yrs 5/6 boys six-a-side football tournament
Wednesday 10 th December	2.30 pm KS1 Christmas Production
Thursday 11 th December	6.30 pm KS1 Christmas Production
Wednesday 17 th December	6.30 pm Christmas Service in Church
Thursday 18 th December	Childrens’ Christmas Party
Friday 19 th December	Last day of term – finish at 12.00 noon
Monday 5 th January 2009	Football Day at school (to be confirmed)
Tuesday 6 th January	First day of school
Thursday 22 nd January	School Association Night Out at the Four Horseshoes, Checkendon
Friday 20 th March	School Association Quiz Night