

Helmingham Community Primary School

Headteacher – Mrs Bernie Cleland

Newsletter 2 – October 2011

Dear Parents and Carers,

This term continues to be busy with harvest festival, sports tournaments and year 6 already planning visits to the high school.

Thank you to all who sent in food donations and who attended the Harvest Festival service. The food donations were taken to the MENCAP residential home in Debenham, where it was very much appreciated. On 7th October we welcomed Mr McLennon and Mr Harries into school for a governor visit. They joined in maths groups with the children and tracked the progression through the school. They then spent some time looking at the risk assessments and discussing a variety of things with the staff.

Moon class launched the first celebration assembly. They shared a variety of work they had been doing in class including paintings, shape poems and harvest work. It was great for everyone to see what has been going on in class.

Good bye and welcome back. We would like to say thank you to Mr Osborn for all the work he has done with us over the last year and wish him well for the future. After half term we welcome back Mrs Salmon to Moon class on Mondays and Tuesdays.

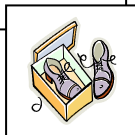
Have a good half term.

Bernie Cleland

Shoebox Appeal

Earlier in the term Mrs Scase sent out a letter about the Christmas Shoebox Appeal.

These shoeboxes will need to be in school by the 4th November. This is a voluntary activity.



Charity Vote

The year 6 children presented their ideas for our school charity earlier this term. There were some fabulous presentations! After a secret ballot the chosen charity was the RSPCA. The first fund raiser is a 'Come as you Please' day on Friday 21st October for a donation of £1. Abbie, Daisy, Baris and Joshua are organising this.



Governors News... The first governing body meeting of the new school year took place a couple of weeks ago with some changes to membership - I am now chair, Glen Buckingham remains vice-chair and Geraint Harries joins us as the new parent governor so a very warm welcome to him. There are still two vacancies although we are almost at the point of filling them - one is for a community governor (somebody from the local area but not with children at the school) and a governor approved by the local authority. That will make us nine which is the minimum requirement. Most of the meeting was spent on general local authority "housekeeping" issues but we did make amendments to the various committees which exist - curriculum and finance to name a couple. The idea is that these sub-committees meet each half-term and report into the main governing body meeting. As governors we will also be making regular visits to the school which will always have a particular focus - Geraint and John have already visited and experienced numeracy classes. Hopefully most parents would have met me or Geraint at the recent parent's evenings - we very much want to raise awareness with parents and carers of who we are and what we do - this was a first step on that journey and including a short note in the school newsletter is the second step. Suggestions always very welcome - you can reach me at mary@yellowbelly.co.uk The next governing body meeting will focus on the school's development plan (ie the school's priorities for this academic year) and I look forward to telling you more at the end of November. *Mary Graham*

Class News

Sun Class have been learning about commas, World War 2, William Shakespeare and all different kinds of triangles. In art we have created blitz pictures by dabbing different colours of paint onto blue paper and sticking silhouette houses on top. We also looked at the planes that were flying in World War 2. Lucy Moon Class We have been learning about Nelson and Van Gogh. We have made a big HMS Victory ship. For 'Face Britain' we created faces in lots of different ways like printing and chalk. We had a trip to Languard Fort and saw dungeons and a big canon - it was fun but windy. We also enjoyed our celebration assembly. *Hugh and Annabel*

Stars Class We have made books with marbled covers and been writing a fairy story. We did some homework about Harvest. We have learnt to count in 2's, 5's and 10's up to and sometimes beyond 100. We made characters using pegs. *Gabrielle*



Dates for your diary.....

Autumn 2011

Thursday 20 th October (9.10am)	Stars class celebration assembly
Thursday 20 th October	Maths workshop (2.30pm)
Monday 24 th - Friday 28 th October	Half term
Thursday 10 th November	Sun class celebration assembly
Monday 14 th November	Photographer in school
Thursday 24 th November	Moon class celebration assembly
Thursday 8 th December	Stars class celebration assembly
Tuesday 13 th December	Christmas performance (2pm)
Wednesday 14 th December	Christmas performance (6pm)
Friday 16 th December	Christmas dinner
Friday 16 th December	End of term

Spring 2012

Tuesday 3 rd January	Staff in school
Wednesday 4 th January	Children in school
Monday 13 th - Friday 17 th February	Half term
Wednesday 29 th February	Scholastic book fair
Friday 30 th March	End of Term

Summer 2012

Monday 16 th April	Staff in school
Tuesday 17 th April	Children in school
Monday 14 th May	Year 6 SAT week
Monday 4 th June - Friday 8 th June	Half term
Friday 20 th July	End of term for children
Monday 23 rd July	Staff in school

Reminders

Healthy Schools Please support us as a healthy school by providing your child with fruit or vegetables for a break time snack. We do provide this for KS1 children as part of government provision. Please no chocolate, sweets or crisps for snacks.

PE Kit - Please ensure your child has trainers for outside PE. These will support their feet better than plimsolls.

If you have any questions or concerns please speak to a member of staff and with home and school working together we can ensure that your child achieves their full potential. Your ideas are always welcome, just speak to member of staff or drop us a note.

