

Babraham Church of England (VC) County Primary

Newsletter Spring term 2007 Number 1

Dear Parents and Friends,

Happy New Year to you all!

We have had a great start to the term and look forward to a busy and productive Spring term.

Foundation Outdoor Play Area

This area was secured over the Christmas holidays with further fencing, thanks to a kind donation from the Friends of Babraham School. This will enable the children to enjoy the area more independently, as we take the safety of our children to be of paramount importance.

World wide and Wonderful - Tuesday 6th February

This is an exciting project that will be the culmination of much planning and thought by our cluster of schools. On the morning of February 6th the children from Babraham, Sawston, Duxford, Stapleford, Shelford and Whittlesford will meet in their particular year groups in different schools. Children will come to school as normal but then will be bussed to different schools, a feat of organisation in itself.

Year 5 & 6 will go to Duxford to experience Capoeira (a Brazilian martial art), Year 4 will go to Shelford to enjoy African music and dance, Class 2 will visit Icknield where they will see Multistory Theatre and Class 1 will go to John Faulkner to take part in Indian dance with Rita Suarli.

Lunch as you might understand will be later than normal, but the kitchen is ready to delay hot dinners until the children arrive. Continuing the theme in the afternoon we will have a multicultural story teller at Babraham. There are many aims to this project, it is hoped that the children will write creatively based on their experiences and that it might be shared with parents, teachers and each other. It is an opportunity to meet children of their own age and to develop their understanding of different viewpoints. At the bottom of this newsletter I have attached a slip for you to give permission for your child to travel by bus and attend the event. I am delighted to say that it is fully funded by the Primary Schools Learning Network.

Extra Curricular activities

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	
Sports Xtra Football January 15 th - 12 th March	Sports Xtra Multisports January 16 th - 13 th March		Rugby skills January 18 th - March 22nd	

Lunchtime club

Mrs Trowsdale a specialist teacher who works with us has kindly offered to run a lunchtime craft and games club. Children from different year groups will be invited for one session over the term and I hope that they enjoy this experience. I will be looking to hearing from them on this point.

Weather warnings

Despite the last weeks being so grey, I have no doubt that the weather will get colder. Please make sure that your child always has a **coat** in school. It's easy to forget if you come by car but, even when the weather is mild, it can change by lunchtime and the children have quite a long playtime outside.

In the event of **very bad weather** - usually snowy, it is sometimes necessary to close the school because the staff cannot get into work. If you are in any doubt, please tune in to Radio Cambridge who will broadcast a list of closed schools at regular intervals or ring the school. It is not a decision however, that is ever taken lightly.

Many thanks for your kind donations after the Christmas Carol service. We continue to share this with St Peter's Church and the children decided that our share should go to the children's cancer research at Addenbrookes.

Help Your Child Learn

There is an excellent website for parents who would like to understand more about how reading, writing & spelling is taught in school so that they can help their children - www.phonics4parents.co.uk

Words and Pictures is a good website for children in Reception Year 1 and 2

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/wordsandpictures/>

The Numeracy Strategy Tips

Using a number Line and showing working

Example: $573 - 287$ Show your working and how you have checked your answer.

One possible method to check

$573 - 287$

$573 - 200 = 373$

$373 - 70 = 303$

$303 - 10 = 293$

$293 - 7 = 286$

Dinner Money

Dinner Money for next half term will be £46.25 and £99.75 for the whole term. Please could you make cheques payable to Cambridge County Council. If you have any questions it is easier to see Mrs Brown at the end of the day when the registers are in her office.

Cake Stalls

In order to raise money to offset the cost of our residential visit, we will be holding cake stalls after each of the 4 class assemblies.

Events

You are all welcome to all our assemblies.

Celebration Assemblies	2 nd February, 16 th March (2.45pm)
Class Assemblies	Class 1 19 th January (2.45pm)
	Class 2 9 th February (2.45pm)
	Year 4 9 th March (2.45pm)
	Class 3 23 rd March (2.45pm)
Easter service	29 th March at 2.15pm
Worldwide and Wonderful Day	Tuesday 6 th February
Half term	12 th February – 16 th February
Parent's Evening	Thursday 22nd February (please note Thursday is first)
	Monday 26 th February
School closes	30 th March
School opens	17 th April

Friends of Babraham School

International Evening	27 th January
Awesome	19 th May

And finally, please don't forget that if you have any concerns about school or ways in which we might improve – we are always happy to talk to you. If you are pleased with us, we would like to hear that too!

Yours sincerely,

Reply Slip - Class

World Wide and Wonderful day Tuesday 6th February

I / We give permission for to travel by bus to one of the Sawston Cluster Schools.

Signed Parent / Carer