

**Rhiwbeina
Primary
School**



**Ysgol
Gynradd
Rhiwbeina**

Headteacher : Mrs. C. Harry
Prifathrawes

February Spring Term Newsletter

Dear Parents

School Intake:-

Our pupil population continues to grow, as we enjoy an enviable reputation in the local and wider community. Any parents wishing to enrol pupils in the Nursery and Reception classes for Sept 2008, please contact my school administrator in the very near future as we are yet again in the position of being “Over subscribed”.

Staffing:-

Miss Denty has given birth to her second baby daughter “Anais” Mother and baby are doing well.

Parent Governor Elections:-

Following the recent ballot Mrs Elizabeth Davies has been elected as the additional parent governor. My grateful thanks to all the candidates who were so willing to give of their time to support and promote the school.

The FOR is actively drawing up a list of events for the remainder of the School Year. With WAG budgets being pruned year on year the FOR work extremely hard to raise funds for valuable equipment to benefit all our pupils. If you are unable to attend events, participation in the FOR lotto scheme may be an option you can consider, not that I have been fortunate to win as yet!

ECO/Healthy School Initiative:-

During the Spring and Summer term The Gardening club and Eco Committee are hoping to crack on with the development of our school grounds. My grateful thanks to Mr P Matthews who has readily given up so much of his time to help us develop the area. The money raised by the Children will be spent on tools and equipment to establish the garden area, which I’m sure the children will be anxious to show you on Open Afternoon.

Additional grants have been sought to develop a butterfly garden and a composting initiative. We are well on the way to achieving our Silver Award for Healthy Schools. Your co-operation in ensuring that your child has a healthy snack (fruit and a drink) is much appreciated.

St David's Day:-

Our Junior Eisteddfod and Infant celebration will be held on Friday 29th February. The Juniors usually opt to wear clothing in their house colour – Deri – blue, Wenallt – red, Briwnant – yellow and Nofydd – green. The Infant girls usually wear traditional Welsh Costume, but Welsh rugby/football shirts are more popular with the boys!

Your usual donation of a packet of Welsh Cakes adds to the celebration. Thank you.

Open Afternoon

This year our Open Afternoon is on Wednesday 18th March. You are warmly invited to join your child in class and in the hall for coffee/tea at any time between 1.15 and 3.30pm.

World Book Day 6th March 2008

Children may wish to dress up as a character from a Book as part of World Book Day Celebrations.

Inset Days

The final 3 Inset Days are scheduled for

Friday 2nd May 2008 (Monday 5th May is a Bank Holiday), Monday 2nd June 2008

Monday 30th June 2008

School Website:-

Our School Website has now been established and hopefully will be useful in keeping you updated with events in school.

Children's University:-

Congratulations to Holly MacLean Smith and Kirsty Baker who are the first of our pupils to achieve the Bronze Award which will be presented by the Lord Mayor and Chief Schools Officer.

Well done also to Jack Shepherd who has achieved a Bronze Award for the Kids college (pupils Y2 and Y3) who will also be invited to the Award Ceremony.

Congratulations to Amy Emberton, Eve Ogden, Rebecca Wonnacott and Kirsty Baker in achieving a Blue Peter award. There were quite a few screaming girls this week when the Blue Peter presenter Gethin Jones arrived to present Jack McCormack with his award for writing a 'rap' on the theme of Eco Schools.

Parental Assistance on School Visits

I am greatly indebted to parents who put themselves forward to assist on School Visits. If any parent has a few spare hours a week, my staff are always grateful for support in the classroom too.

Residential Visit

This year we have re-introduced the visit to Llangranog for our Urdd Members and the opportunity for our Y6 pupils to attend the Outdoor Activity Centre in Kingswoods (Staffordshire). I am very appreciative of all the time my staff give so readily to enhance the learning opportunities of our pupils beyond 3.30pm

Midday Supervisors

Along with many other schools in this area I am experiencing difficulty recruiting Midday Supervisors. If you know of anyone who might be interested please ask them to contact me for further details.

School Meal Price Increase

Please note as from 1st April 2008 the LEA have increased the price of a pupil school meal from 1.50 daily to £1.60 (daily).

Curriculum

School Reading Scheme

With the assistance of the FOR I have purchased £6,000 of new reading materials for years 2 – 6. To audit the current books, catalogue and label the new books, draft new reading records and arrange for additional storage takes time in a school this size.

Please be patient if your child is not currently bringing home a school book. The children are all involved in group reading activities in school, and still have access to paired reading and fiction books. The children are all being encouraged to join the local library.

Normal service will be resumed in the very near future, and in the longer term this new scheme will enhance the reading material we offer our pupils.

Regards

Mrs. C.A. Harry