

## October Newsletter 2004

We are beginning to settle into the new building and despite a few teething problems with various aspects of the building, the environment has been well-received by the children and staff, and this newsletter contains details of opportunities for parents to come and have a look at the new building. I hope as many parents will take advantage of this opportunity.

### 1. TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Traffic continues to be hectic particularly at the end of the school day, and several vehicles have received tickets for illegal parking on the crossing point, or on the yellow lines outside the school. Can I repeat my request for parents to use Mellor Street which enables children to cross safely at the crossing, and keeps Moorfield Street clear for children to see both ways, without inconveniencing any of the school's neighbours. The crossing patrol has completed her temporary posting, although I am currently negotiating with the Highways Department and Road Safety Team to see if this service could be resumed.

### 2. PARENT GROUP

Following a meeting of almost twenty parents in the school last week, it was decided to call a further meeting for next Tuesday 12th October at 9.00am. The school hall has been booked for this, and all parents are warmly invited (entry via the main school entrance after children have been admitted to classes.) One of the main issues was parental involvement in an extended "Open Afternoon/Evening" on Wednesday 15th November 2004. Other issues will look at how parents can get involved in the life of the school. Please try to come to the meeting next Tuesday.

### 3. RAMADAN

With Ramadan soon to start I would like to remind our Muslim parents that the school is willing to make facilities available for Year 5/6 children to fast during the month. However written permission is needed from parents who wish to take advantage of this, and the school cannot cater for fasting of children younger than Year 5.

### 4. SECONDARY TRANSFER APPLICATIONS

Just a quick reminder to parents of year 6 children that secondary school forms need to be returned to Northgate House by Tuesday 19th October. If you are sending yours via school, we will need to have them by Friday 15th October.

### 5. DATA CHECKING SHEETS

Over the next week or so we will be sending out data sheets showing what information we hold on file about your children. Please can you check that the information is correct, including name spellings, addresses, telephone numbers and doctors. Can you also add any information where this is omitted, particularly emergency contact information or medical information. When this is done the amended sheet should be returned to school as soon as possible.

### 6. HEADLICE

We have had a number of cases reported to school in the last few days. Please can you ensure you check your children's hair regularly and treat any cases of infestation.

### 7. DIARY DATES

October 12th 9.00am Parent Meeting in school hall  
October 18th Open Evening  
October 21st 2.00pm Harvest Assembly  
October 22nd School Closes teacher training  
October 25th School Closed Half-Term  
November 17th Celebration Fayer for new school  
December 6th 1.30pm Visit from Mayor  
December 17th School closes for Christmas Holidays

The school will also be closed for teacher training days on Friday 11th February 2005, Friday 18th March 2005, Friday 29th April 2005 and Thursday 21st July 2005.

#### 8. PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

There being only one nomination, Mr Tony Davies has been appointed to serve as parent governor for the next four years.

#### 9. AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

We hope to get these up and running straight after half-term.

#### 10. STAFFING UPDATE

Since I last wrote to you Mrs Taylor's retirement, which started on 1st October. I am sure you will all want to join me in wishing her well. Adverts have been placed to recruit additional teaching assistants to replace Mrs Taylor and Mrs Ali. Unfortunately Mrs Harvey is still unable to return to school, but Mrs Reynard and Mrs Able have agreed temporary contracts to cover her absence.

#### 11. LADIES AEROBICS

The class leader would be Shahnaz Mir, a parent of one of our children, who is a qualified aerobic instructor with a current first-aid certificate and Public Liability Insurance. The class can only go ahead with sufficient interest shown. Contact the school for more details.