

25th November 2011

Next week will see us move into December and closer to our Christmas festivities. The term has been enjoyable and busy with everyone working very hard and making lots of progress in their learning.

Parent & Friends Association Children's Disco – Friday 25th November

We are looking forward to our Disco. The PFA have planned very carefully to ensure the evening goes really well with our new arrangements.

Key Stage One Children will come into and go from the school by the usual main entrance door. Their disco will run from 6:15 to 7:15 when they will need to be collected promptly. Adult helpers and Reception Parents are able to stay for the disco.

Key Stage 2 children will come into school by the kitchen entrance to the side of the school and then leave by the main entrance. *Their disco will run from 7:30 to 8:30 pm.*

Remembrance 'Royal British Legion' Poppy Appeal

Our appeal in school raised almost £100, thank you to everyone for such strong support. The children reflected on the occasion and learnt much over the week about 'Remembrance'. Many of them chatted about family histories and memories which are passed down the generations. In common with the national picture, it is encouraging that November 11th and Remembrance is perhaps growing in significance and not becoming diminished with time. Our children were as always, very keen to learn, share information and deepen their understanding of this highly important national and international occasion.

Children in Need Day

The BBC 'Children in Need Day' last Friday was a lovely day in school, many thanks for all the support and effort in helping children, if they wished to dress for the occasion. We raised over £350. Over the day the children learnt about the appeal and where and how the funds raised are used. Our cake sale was a huge success, do look on our website for the photos. Lots of thanks to families who had prepared and baked terrific cakes especially for the day. Our children were delighted to see, buy and enjoy the delicious cakes ~ thank you.

Anti-bullying Week

This week has been national Anti-bullying week. Our Collective Worship theme focussed on relationships and bullying. Over the week at appropriate levels for our different aged children we looked at;

- Making sure that all children and adults mean the same thing when they talk about bullying.
- Helping children to understand how bullying feels for the person being bullied.
- Making sure that all children feel ok about telling an adult when they know bullying is going on.
- Making sure that all children know exactly what to do if they are being bullied and feel confident that something will be done to stop it.
- Helping children enjoy, celebrate and respect the ways we are all different, as well as the ways in which we are similar, and to feel good about themselves.

Our children learn that three things have to happen together for something to be called 'bullying';

1. It goes on for a while, or happens regularly.
2. It is deliberate. The other person wants to hurt, humiliate or harm the target.
3. It involves someone (or several people) who are stronger in some way than the person being bullied. The person doing the bullying has more power; they are older; stronger; there are more of them or they have some 'hold' over the target.

Our children learn that for something to be called 'bullying' it is not;

- A one off fight or argument.
- A friend sometimes being nasty.
- An argument with a friend, classmate or peer.

Police Concerns

Re Stranger Danger & Recent Car approaches to children in the local area

Maria Williams PCSO contacted school this week after a Police alert.

Following the reports of a van and car approaching children in Wyberton there have been fresh reports of similar approaches on Freiston Road and Woad Farm Road. The vehicles have varied – small blue car/ white transit van/ small Peugeot/ dark coloured Audi.

Please talk with your children at their level of understanding emphasising the need to be wary of unknown people approaching them in a vehicle and under no circumstances to get into an unknown vehicle with an unknown person.

School Building Work

Progress is good on Phase 1 of our building work with the mild weather really helping. Most of the demolition work is complete & Foundations to Phase 1 are in place and the construction work well under way.

A School Governor Team visit this week to school reported; 'It's such a credit to the whole staff team that even with all the building work going on, the energy level around school feels positive and the school looks tidy and welcoming.

School Safety Zone

Our Police Community Beat Officers are delighted with the way that Hawthorn Tree School Safety Zone is working – one of the most successful in Boston. 99% of Parents are doing a great job each day, abiding by the rules of the Safety Zone ~ thank you. If you fall into the 1% who habitually abuse the rules, then firstly as the school banner says 'shame on you' and secondly, please do not moan when you receive a visit from the Police and a possible fine as we do collate a record of habitual offenders.

Industrial Action Wed. 30th November

A TxT Round message went out from school to all Parents & Carers yesterday to say that school on this occasion, will be open as normal. It should be appreciated that the individual decisions which are made to contribute to a decision on whether the school can remain open or closed do raise difficult and conflicting professional, personal and moral dilemmas.

Sport

Netball – Friendly match with Tower Road School this week, a win for Hawthorn Tree 6:2, well done.

Football, our first league game of the 2011-12 season. A win for Hawthorn Tree 2:1, well done and a great start to our league fixtures.

Indoor Athletics Championships – through to the final!

This event took place at the PRSA stadium today. Our competitors were excellent ambassadors for our school and came first in this event out of the schools attending by a clear 40 point lead – well done.

Reception Places for September 2012. Please let family & friends know that we will have 60 places available for Reception children next year. All Parents of reception children who wanted a place at Hawthorn Tree School gained a place this September.

Current dates for this term including Christmas arrangements.

Fri 25 th Nov	Y5/6 Indoor Athletics Heat at PRSA PFA disco. KS1 6:15 to 7:15pm, KS2 7:30 to 8:30 pm.
Tue 29 th Nov	10:50 Tour and meeting for Parents of Reception children September 2012.
Sat 3 rd Dec	Boston Primary Schools Cross County Competition at Boston High School
Tues 6 th Dec	Y1/2 Christmas Production to parents @ 1:30 pm
Wed 7 th Dec	Christmas Dinner Choir to the Minstrels
Thurs 8 th Dec	Choir to The Georgians Y1/2 Christmas Production to parents @1:30 pm
Fri 9 th Dec	Early Years Foundation Stage Concert @ 1:30 pm
Mon 12 th Dec	KS1 to Blackfriars 'Peter Pan'.
Tues 13 th Dec	KS2 to Blackfriars 'Peter Pan'. Y1/2 Christmas Party pm
Wed 14 th Dec	Reception Christmas Party pm
Thurs 15 th Dec	Y3/4 Christmas Party pm Y5/6 Christmas Bowling
Fri 16th Dec	End of Term Two
Tues 3 rd Jan	School closed for children. Teacher training day.
Wed 4th Jan	Beginning of Term 3