



News from the Nest

26th February

2009

The Big Move – 6 weeks to go!

Dear Parents,

The date for the move into the first part of our new school is just around the corner. Thomas Vale, our contractors, have been working hard and despite the snow we are still on target for the children to move into their new classrooms after Easter.

The children will enjoy having the latest interactive whiteboards, projectors and of course brand new furniture in all the classrooms.



Each year group has its own cloakroom and suite of toilets – all with automatic taps and flush!



We also have a new dining kitchen, fitted with the latest equipment and ovens so that Paul, our chef, can serve even more delicious roast dinners and hot puds with custard! The children will eat in the new hall and also enjoy assemblies delivered using the latest cinema style digital projector sending images to a large flat mounted screen. There is a sound system fully integrated into the hall which will help all children to hear clearly even if we have a packed audience.

Once we have moved into the new classrooms the builders will begin Phase 2 of our development. This involves major refurbishment of some of the existing school – from the link doors down to the Children's Centre. A new community training room, school library and resource area form part of the plans together with a revamp of the current dining hall. Phase 2 will link the school building back up with Reception, Nursery and the rest of the Children's Centre so that we

remain fully integrated.

Once we have finalised plans for the temporary entrances / exits for children and parents I will write to you again with all the details. I would like to thank you for your patience and good humour whilst the school has been a major building site. It will be lovely when we have our front entrance so that you can access the office and any help you need directly rather than having to wait in the Children's Centre reception area whilst someone tracks us down!

Best wishes,



Welcome!

We are pleased to welcome Mrs Blewitt and Miss

Snell back from maternity leave. Both members of staff will continue in their current roles: Mrs Blewitt as our Nurture Group leader and Miss Snell as our Children's Centre teacher.

We are also delighted to welcome Mrs Launchbury and Miss Sharples onto our team of Class Mentors. Mrs Launchbury is working with Class 1SB and Miss Sharples with Class 1SA.

Holiday Dates:

We break up for Easter on **Friday 3rd April**. The children come back to school on **Tuesday 21st April**. The school will be closed on Monday 20th April for a staff training day to help us prepare our new classrooms ready for the children.

Half term is Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May. We break up for the Summer on Friday 17th July.

Keeping our children safe!

A number of parents have expressed their concern (and I am in total agreement!) about people parking on the zigzag lines outside school. These lines are there to keep our children safe. If cars park on them it is difficult for children to see if the road is clear to cross. It is also hard for drivers who wish to come up Marigold Crescent to be able to see clearly.

I would ask all parents that if they need to collect their child from school in a car then to please park away from the end of the school drive.

I have contacted the local police to ask them to come to school at the end of the day and assess the risks. Please don't be selfish and risk a



child's safety by parking on the yellow zigzag lines at any time.

Important Date:

Parents Evening Tuesday 10th March, 4 – 6pm.

The person who makes the biggest difference to their child's learning is YOU! Please come to Parents Evening and look at your child's books, talk with the teacher and show your child that you really care how they are doing at school.

Child Protection

Written by Mrs Alison Keyes, Designated Teacher for Child Protection

We have all been deeply touched by the tragedy of the death of Baby P in London, a helpless baby, unable to protect himself and physically abused by the people who should have been caring for him. At Wren's Nest we have rigorous procedures that we have to follow to protect children from harm. These are explained in our Child Protection Policy. This policy is available to all Parents and Carers on request from the school office. There is no charge for this. A copy of our policy is also on our school website.

Our policy states:

All Governors, Staff, Volunteers and Parents have a duty to safeguard all children attending or visiting Wren's Nest

We do this by:

1. Ensuring that we carry out thorough checks on all adults who work in school on a professional and voluntary basis (including parent helpers).
2. Equipping children with the skills they need to keep them safe.
3. Supporting children who have been harmed or are at risk of harm or neglect.
4. Applying rigorous systems for recognising and reporting cases of harm or neglect.

5. Establishing a safe environment in which children feel secure, are encouraged to talk and are listened to.

We work closely with Children's Specialist Services to support individual children and their families during times of crisis or need.

The Designated Teachers for Child Protection are:

- Mrs Wylie (Head Teacher)
- Mrs Keyes (Pupil and Family Support Co-ordinator)
- Mrs Rich (Children's Centre – Family Support Co-ordinator)

All Parents have a responsibility to protect their children or their neighbour's children or the child they see wandering the streets alone, late at night, tired, hungry or distressed. If you have a concern about a child please contact any one of the above staff or Dudley Children's Services on 01384 813200.

In the Summer Term, we will be running an Internet Safety Session for Parents who would like to find out about the potential dangers of the internet and how they can help to keep their children safe when they are using it.

Information leaflets are also available in the Information Centre in the Children's Centre reception area.

