



# News from the Nest

4<sup>th</sup> September 2009

## Welcome Back!

Dear Parents,

I hope you have enjoyed a good summer with your children and that they are ready to return to school, fresh and eager to learn.

Over the holidays, the builders have been busy reshaping and landscaping the front driveway of school. This completes the last major digging work – and Phase 2 of our building development is on time. During the next term, the link between the new building and the old will be completed and there will be total refurbishment of the old building.



Once completed there will be a lovely new training room for adults with an interactive whiteboard, digital projector and 10 new computers. Mrs Armitage will be reinstated in her office and the community meeting room next door will be fitted with a kitchen area and large table so that all parents can have an area in which to make coffee, meet and talk with Mrs Armitage and other members of staff. In the refurbishment there will also be a large resource storage area, a classroom for small group work which will also act as a base for Mrs Keyes (our Pupil and Family Support Co-ordinator), a disabled care room, the staff room and of course we keep our old dining hall as a second hall – with the floor beautifully sanded and renovated.

We hope much of the work will be completed by Christmas with February half term being the deadline for Thomas Vale, our building contractors to be finished and off site. A large staff car park will be built at the back of the school, which will mean that most cars will be clear from the front of school. I would like to thank everyone for their continued patience whilst the building work continues. It certainly hasn't been easy but I think everyone would agree that the new school more than compensates for the inconveniences that we have had to live with – our children do deserve the very best!



Many thanks,

Ruth Wylie – Headteacher

## Please help us!



It has been just over a year since our last major questionnaire and we would now like to seek your views once again. Your feedback is important – as a result of the last questionnaire we introduced a new homework policy and weekly homework, we have ensured that there is lots of playground equipment and things to do at break and lunchtime so that the children play and behave well and we have held a parents' evening each term and have provided more opportunities for parents to come into school.

The last year has obviously been an exciting one with the move to the new school. We would like to get some feedback from you to assess how you feel the school is now working.

Your child will bring home a questionnaire this week with a brown envelope. Please could you complete the questionnaire by ticking the boxes to show how you feel about different aspects of school and then



return it in the brown envelope. All replies are anonymous.

As an incentive for your child to bring back the envelope when they hand it in they will have their name recorded on a class list. For every class we will have a prize draw and one lucky child will win £5! The draw will take place in assembly on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September.



## Permission forms

Together with this newsletter you should have received 3 forms. – a general visit form, a photograph form and consent to use the internet.

Blue Form – Each year we need to ask parents to complete a permission form to enable your child to take part in activities in the local area outside the school gates. These activities are always planned and you will be informed before such activities take place. **Please complete this form and return it via your child.**



Pink form – This is a letter seeking your permission to take photos for school display, our school website, newspaper articles etc. Dudley Council are asking all schools to issue the same consent form to enable your child to have their photo taken. **Please complete this form and return it via your child.**

Cream form – This letter asks your permission for your child to use the internet. At school the internet has a safety filter to ensure your child only accesses safe sites. The children throughout school use the internet to help them to research topics and find out information. **You only need to send the form back if you DO NOT wish your child to use the internet.**



## School Photographs:

At Wren's Nest we time our school photographs so that they can be given as presents to relatives at Christmas. Children will have their photograph taken **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October** and the proofs will be given to children to take home shortly afterwards. If you would like to order photographs please complete the form and return to school as soon as possible. All photographs will arrive in good time for Christmas.

## Parents Evening : Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October, 4pm – 6pm

As Headteacher I really value the importance of a strong relationship between parents and school. Your child only has one chance with his/her education – it is important that we get it right! Please do take this opportunity to come and see your child's work and discuss their progress in this new school year.



## Holiday Dates & Training Days

**Half Term: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2009**

**End of term: Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

**Staff Training Days: Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

This week your child will bring home a small calendar card showing all the holidays and training days for this year. We introduced this card last year and following lots of positive comments from parents have decided to print this card each year. We hope you find it useful!

**Important Date! Year 6 SAT national tests will take place during the week, starting Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2010.  
All Y6 must be in school during this week – please do not book holidays during this time. Thank you.**