

# York Road Junior School and Star Centre

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## Newsletter

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2009

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Welcome back. We hope you all had a wonderful summer break.

We welcome several members of staff to our teaching team:

*Ms Dunham* – Star Centre, Jupiter class  
*Ms Wilkinson, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Bailey and Mrs. Baruch* – Junior School

We would like to remind you that Mrs. Kate Reynolds joins us as Executive Head and Mrs. Sillitoe is now Head of School. We also have two assistant heads, Ms Cook and Mrs. Macknelly.

### Raffle News

Last term we held a summer raffle and the top prizes were won by:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize - £100 – Georgina Bailey
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - £50 – Martyn Beedles
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – French Bear (donated by Build-a-Bear) - Fiona Limbo

### ParentMail

We have sent this newsletter home with the children as the ParentMail system is being upgraded. Next month, everyone who has signed up to ParentMail will receive their newsletter by email. If you have not yet signed up to this service please seriously consider doing so as it is the securest way to receive all the information relating to events in school and up to date information. You can even store the information on your computer rather than risk losing pieces of paper.

If you have not yet signed up and wish to do so, please complete the form at the end of this newsletter and return it to the school office.

### Friends Association

As we stated in a previous newsletter, unfortunately, due to lack of support the Friends Association has been suspended. Planning and running events is very time consuming and it was proving difficult to secure commitment to these events. Hopefully in the future we will be able to resurrect the Friends as they always carried out sterling work in their fundraising and we have a wonderful ICT suite to show for their dedication. We would like to thank everyone on the Committee and all past helpers for their hard work.

### School Fund

Every year we ask each family to pay £5 towards our School Fund. This helps us to provide extra events for your children i.e. in-house theatre productions, dance performances etc. As we no longer have a Friends Association, the School Fund has become even more important. Remember, it is only £5 per family for the whole school year. Please send in your School Fund in an envelope marked "School Fund" with your child's name and class. Thank you to those parents who have already sent your £5, it is very much appreciated.

### Secondary Transfer meeting reminder– Year 6 parents

Tonight, Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30 pm we are holding a secondary transfer meeting for parents of year 6 children. This meeting will be held in the south hall and entrance is via reception. Please do make every effort to attend this meeting as we will be explaining the secondary transfer process for September 2010. If you cannot attend the

meeting we will send your child home with the choices book.

### **Contact Sheets**

We are in the process of sending home the emergency contact sheets. Please amend and/or add the relevant details and return the form to the school office as soon as possible. It is very important that we have up to date information in the event of an emergency. Mobile phone numbers are often changed, so please check them carefully.

### **Asthma inhalers**

If your child suffers from asthma please supply two inhalers, one for the child to keep on them, the other to keep in the first aid room as a spare. Thank you.

### **Information Regarding Swine Flu**

In the event of swine flu being diagnosed, the school's course of action will be in line with Local Authority and DCSF guidance. Given the mildness of the virus, expert medical advice has advised that there is no good reason for schools to close, however, it is still essential that adults or children with flu-like symptoms should stay away (from school) until they are free of those symptoms and should contact the National Pandemic Flu Service on 0800 1513513 or at [www.pandemicflu.direct.gov.uk](http://www.pandemicflu.direct.gov.uk).

Should your child be absent due to swine flu, please report their absence from school as you would usually.

In the meantime, it is important that you continue to follow good hand washing and hygiene practice which can help prevent flu from spreading. Thank you.

### **Curriculum Information**

We will be posting year group curriculum topic webs on our school website: [www.yorkroadschool.org.uk](http://www.yorkroadschool.org.uk) from Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September. These will provide you with details of what subjects and topics will be covered over the coming term along with ideas for homework activities.

### **Gate opening times**

The school gates are opened at 8.40 a.m. for the start of school and again at 3.10 p.m. at the end of the school day. Please note that the first gate is opened at these times and the

others may be a little later being opened. Please be patient.

### **Works carried out**

During the holidays we had works carried out in the playground, upgrading the playground equipment. We are also in the process of completing a children's gym. We hope it will be finished very soon.

### **Events this term:**

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September: Braiswick Photographers are in school for individual photographs. If your child has a sibling in another school and you would like them to have their photo taken together, please bring them to the north building at 8.30 a.m. (Please note the school gates will be opened at 8.25 a.m. )  
Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October: Literacy (Phonics) Workshops for Parents – please see section below  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October: Parents Consultation Week  
Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October – Book Fair Week  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October – Year 3 Victorian Day – Kent Museum of Life  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October - Black History Day  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October – Maths show  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – Numeracy Workshops for parents – please see section below

### **Numeracy and Literacy (Phonics)**

#### **Workshops**

We will be holding parent workshops for numeracy and literacy in order to demonstrate the teaching and learning methods used in school and allow parents the opportunity to 'have a go!'. These sessions have previously been very helpful in supporting parents to understand and help their child with homework.

Please come along and join us. Tea and biscuits provided!

#### *Dates and times:*

Literacy (Phonics) workshops: Thursday October 8<sup>th</sup> 2pm and 6.30pm  
Numeracy workshops: Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2pm and 6.30pm.

### **School Meals**

May we please remind you that the school meals are now £1.95 per day (£9.75 per

week), just a small increase from last term. Please ensure that you pay dinner money promptly.

**Breakfast Club**

Breakfast Club is now full. If you would like to put your child's name on the waiting list please contact Mrs. Mealin in the school office.

For security reasons we would ask that parents leave their child at the security door. If you wish to speak to Mrs. Mealin please ask a member of staff.

**Gym Club**

Numbers for the gym club have fallen and therefore unless they increase it will not continue at York Road School. If your child is interested in joining the gym club, held on a Tuesday after school, please contact Danielle on 07736313082.

Danielle also requires an adult volunteer helper for this session to assist the gym instructor. Again, if you are able to help, please contact Danielle.

**PE shirts**

Have you purchased your child's "house" T-shirt yet? We now have most sizes in stock. Price £5.

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I am able to receive information and give permission for my email address and/or mobile number to be registered with ParentMail®.

Parent Name/s \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Children/s names \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

My Email address/es \_\_\_\_\_ (insert email address/es) \*

\_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Telephone numbers \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_