



Horsmonden Primary School

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Headmaster:

Mr Malcolm E. Hayes

9th January 2009

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year and welcome back to school! All of us on the staff, would like to say a very big **thank you** for your kindness and generosity with the cards and gifts you gave us before Christmas. We really all do consider ourselves fortunate in working here and being on the receiving end of such generosity serves only to remind us of what a special community this is. Thank you.

Like all terms, the pace soon picks up and there are all sorts of bits and pieces to note in starting this term smoothly. **School clubs** all start next week. Once I've had confirmation of exact times from all our external providers, I'll send you a full timetable of what goes on out of hours for your children.

I must apologise to some of you for the problems you have been experiencing with **Extra Hours Club**. There have been stroppy scenes in a number of cases where children have not wanted to come home when collected as they're having too much of a good time. I'm also in the position of having had to extract my own two against their wishes as I endeavoured to pass through the hall to the car this week. It's great fun, it feels very different to the rest of the school day, you know your children are safe, it's inexpensive and it's open to all children from Reception to Year 6 five days each week up until 6 p.m. For full details, please see the **School and Community Board** in the main entrance hall.

Congratulations to the children who took part in **Junior Strictly Come Dancing** and in particular to **Matthew Clark and Georgie Ridge** who won the competition! All our children did well in a skill they hadn't tried before and I'm delighted to inform you that the opportunity is opening up this term on a Friday afternoon after school for children and on a Wednesday evening between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. **for adults**. At the time of writing I haven't received the full details, but they should be arriving before the end of the day and therefore be accompanying this letter.

Bring Your Dad to School Day is on 4th February. If you haven't already booked the day in your diary, do try to organise it. By popular demand the morning will conclude with a slow amble to The Gun and Spitroast, where the merits of healthy eating will be discussed over a pint and all day cooked breakfast. For research and behaviour management purposes I shall be accompanying attendees at the lunch; please email or phone me in advance if you require lunch for a mere £6.95 so that I can book one for you.

On 18th January, St Margaret's Church are holding a **Christingle** at their Youth and Kids Rock Service with glow candles, oranges, sweets, games etc starting at 10.30am in the Church Hall. All are welcome.

On the evening of 29th January, you have the opportunity to further extend your social network alongside thanking the faithful on the 'committee' for their hard work on your children's behalf. Yes, it's the **Friends of Horsmonden Primary School AGM** at which the success of the past year will be highlighted along with the plans for the year ahead. If you are interested in knowing more, would like to be a part of the committee, or just want to be able to thank others for their efforts, please do come along to the computer suite at 7.30 p.m. on the evening. Those who arrive first will have their choice of comfy swivel chairs!

Do you have any unwanted **white sheets or old school uniform** that you're happy to donate to Year 5 for recycling purposes? I know it sounds like an unusual request, but we are referring to Miss Dunn's class, so nothing should surprise you! Please pass them directly on to Year 5.

Have a magnificent term!



Malcolm E. Hayes
Headmaster

