



## Horsmonden Primary School

Back Lane, Horsmonden, Kent TN12 8NJ

Tel: 01892 722529 Fax: 01892 724134

Email: [headteacher@horsmonden.kent.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@horsmonden.kent.sch.uk)

Website: [www.horsmonden.kent.sch.uk](http://www.horsmonden.kent.sch.uk)

Headmaster:

Mr Malcolm E. Hayes

9<sup>th</sup> October 2009

Dear Parents,

Tuesday afternoon may not have been the best weather, but there was a good deal of warmth around the village as over 200 children distributed the **harvest** goods that you so generously gave. Many thanks to Year 4 who led our special assembly and to those of you who assisted in bagging up the goods as well as those of you who joined us for the walk round the village in the afternoon. The letters of thanks sent in by many of the recipients show clearly how much the visit from the children is appreciated as well as the gifts and I've put them on display in the main entrance.

Congratulations also to **Year 4** for the way in which they conducted themselves on their trip to Port Lympne Animal Park on Thursday. The weather was beautiful and it was great to have a day with 33 children where we didn't need to tell them off at any point for their behaviour, but instead were able to enjoy the experience and listen to some excellent questions from them as we went around.

Next week we have a very special occasion for our Reception children with the **Welcome to School Assembly** on Wednesday morning. There are quite a few of you with pre-school toddlers in Kindergarten, so we'll be starting the assembly at 9.05 a.m. to allow you to drop them over the road first. We will also be running a crèche in the children's library during the assembly; it can be embarrassing for parents when pre-school children get fidgety and can really distract from the assembly once they start jangling bunches of keys or giving those strange little squeaks that small ones seem able to manage at crucial moments. Parents and relatives of Reception children are warmly invited to attend the assembly, which is a celebration of our new children starting school and a welcome from all of us as they start their learning journey.

From time to time we get a number of visitors joining classes for experience in classes. Those volunteers like coming to us because, apparently, we're a bit different from many other settings in our less bureaucratic and more child-centred approach. In addition to the volunteers, we will also be hosting two **student teachers** this term for short placements; Miss Elizabeth Batten will be joining Year 4 and Miss Lisa Biggs will be joining Year 6. Please don't think there's going to be a level of disruption to either class as both teachers will be supporting the work that's going on in classes and will be additional teachers rather than temporary replacements.

Morrison's are currently supporting schools through their **Let's Grow Vouchers**. If you do your shopping at Morrisons, or if you have a friend or relative who does, please send the vouchers in and they will be used to support Gardening Club's activities. Thank you.

**And finally...** do you have a bit of spare time to shake a tin tomorrow? We've had a message from Bill Roberts who is part of The Guide Dogs for the Blind Charity asking for volunteers to shake a tin outside one of the local shops this Saturday. If you (and your children with their dewy, appealing eyes) are able to assist, please contact Bill by email on [wrob901585@aol.com](mailto:wrob901585@aol.com) or phone 01580 754642.

Yours sincerely,

Malcolm E. Hayes  
Headmaster

