



Horsmonden Primary School

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Headmaster:

Mr Malcolm E. Hayes

15th January 2010

Dear Parents,

Goodness me! What a start to the term! I'm sure that we're all relieved to be returning to normality this week following all the snow. Just as we began to get over the snowfall, we had a power cut in the infants, but luckily my course on electrical circuitry and heating engineering for headteachers proved to be of real value and the problem was soon rectified. I would like to thank all the staff for the efforts they have made to get into school throughout the disruption. Last Friday, we actually ended up overstaffed! However, the theme for one of our assemblies was that success comes in cans, not cannots, so it's been good to have had the opportunity to put that into practice so soon in the year. 2010 is the Year of the Can.

As if to prove the toughness of the staff at Horsmonden, during the afternoons Mr Coleman and Mrs Taylor have still been digging in the snow preparing the fencing that will surround our **outdoor classroom**. It's adjacent to the school car park and is the most tranquil part of the school grounds; you will soon see hedging coming to life providing the children with a wonderful outdoor learning area.

There are some important dates coming up in the school calendar that I'd like to remind you about. Thursday 28th January at 7:30 p.m. is the **Friends of Horsmonden Primary School AGM**. On first reading, that might not sound like the kind of exciting opportunity you regard as a high priority on your social calendar, but just looking around the school at many of the improvements made in the last 12 months reminds us all why it's so important to have a strong parent body supporting the work of the school. In turning up, you show your appreciation for the efforts of the committee – and we promise that you won't be harassed into joining the committee just because you're there, nor will there be a raffle. Committee members have the same commitments as the rest of us but, without seeking personal reward, give unselfishly to benefit all children. Please make every effort to turn up, thank the committee and enjoy the opportunity to socialise. Later that evening, you can watch "Real Crime with Mark Austin" on ITV – our Chairman is clearly a versatile individual!

The following week, on Wednesday 3rd February, it's **Bring Your Dad to School Day**. This is a magnificent event during which all manner of practical activities take place. Of course, not every dad can make it, so you have to be prepared to be shared. I know that many of you will have lost time at work due to adverse weather, but those of you who have been before will know how much the children enjoy the day. The morning starts in classes at 09:30, but there will be a cup of tea or coffee available beforehand in the hall if you're doing the school run. We finish in class at 11:30, followed by the opportunity to engage with a low cholesterol, low fat, ultra-healthy all day cooked breakfast at The Gun for a mere £6.95. This represents true value for money as there's no rise from last year's cost, so you know it makes sense. Please fill in the attached form to let us know if you're coming for the morning and if you wish to stay for the lunch so that we can ensure you have locally produced sausages rather than being forced to eat quiche with the latecomers table. If you're not sure how it works, there will be further instructions and a timetable on the day to help you through the morning.

Yours sincerely,

Malcolm E. Hayes
Headmaster



Bring Your Dad to School Day 2010

Name of child(ren) _____ Class _____

I am hoping to come along to spend time in class on BYDTSD 2010.

You aren't committed, but it helps us to know how many visitors we'll have on the day.

I would like to book lunch at The Gun and Spitroast and for £6.95.

Signed _____

Please return this form to school but send no money.