



Horsmonden Primary School Back Lane, Horsmonden, Kent TN12 8NJ

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Mr Malcolm E. Hayes

11th July 2008

Dear Parents,

Only 8 school days to go and so much still to cram in! Many of you missed a couple of paragraphs in last week's newsletter, except for those on the electronic listing who were able to get the second edition. In the frenzied Fleet Street atmosphere of the school office that surrounds the production of this weekly tome, our desire for efficiency sometimes gets ahead of us and last minute items can get postponed. For those of you who like to get things into the newsletter, it's usually more or less finished by Thursday afternoon and printed fairly early on Fridays. So, for those who may have missed the following, here it is again:

During consultation evenings, many of you will hopefully have noticed a full list of **diary dates** for the next academic year on my noticeboard in the front entrance hall. The full list of dates, including class assemblies, is now also available on the school website to help you plan well in advance.

Great news! The school fete raised £3,200

And now, on with this week's delicious offering in which I'll get the bits and pieces out of the way first. The **one-way system** that operates in the mornings is the stuff of legend and the vast majority of you are spot on in following it. Unfortunately, it appears that some of the workmen at the Village Hall are not as well-developed in their understanding of the school run as they are in the use of colloquial Anglo Saxon. It's difficult on both sides of the parking space; they have their job to be doing and we've got children to get to school, but it may be beneficial for the time being not to rely on getting too close to the school.

Headlice! I hate to nit-pick, but this one really is down to parents – we're not allowed to check children's hair. SO, let's declare war on them and once again make sure that **Sunday night is nit-night**. The simple theory is that if you all check your children's hair on Sunday evening and the whole school comes in headlice free on Monday morning, we'll stand a better chance of keeping the little blighters at bay for the remainder of term; BUT it does require every parent to do their duty. If you want information sheets on treatments, we have some in the office. Why? Because you're worth it!

Are you all up to date with your **dinner money**? Rachel in the kitchen takes quite a battering if her figures are out, so please make sure you pay in advance rather than leave a summertime debt.

Next week, we are holding a **small spoon amnesty**. Earlier in the academic year we purchased 200 small desert spoons, and staff generously loan them to packed lunch children who have not brought one. Unfortunately, this act of generosity has so far resulted in no fewer than 140 spoons leaving the school, so can you search through your drawers, check your silverware and subtly return any spoons that you think may have turned up at home by mistake.

Also next week is the **Junior Swimming Gala** at the Tonbridge School Centre Pool. It's well signposted; as you head out of the top end of the High Street, bear left at the traffic lights and about a quarter of a mile along the road it's on the left hand side. Your children will need to be at the pool by 09:30, which will allow you to drop other children at Horsmonden before heading off for Tonbridge. We'll be leaving the pool at around 11:30 (ish) to be back for school during lunchtime. School dinners will be kept for your children – we will ring numbers through from the poolside.

Quest Club are having a cake sale on Wednesday 16th July after school. All proceeds will go to Milton, an 8 year-old who lives in Columbia and whose education and welfare is sponsored by Quest. If you have any cakes you would like to donate, please see Caroline Turvey and don't forget to come along on Wednesday to buy a cake.

La Jolie Ronde is a new opportunity for your children in the autumn term, in which they can learn French or Spanish. One of the accompanying letters gives you full details and a response is required by next Friday.

We still have a fantastic **mosaic** in the school that all children and staff have taken part in creating. Unfortunately we don't yet have any volunteers with drills and spirit levels to put it up. It would be great to put it up before the summer holiday so that Lucy in Year 6 can still be here to see her design adorn and ameliorate our walkway to the front door.

Did you know that one of our longest running clubs is **Judo Club**, which takes place on a Friday evening between 6:15 and 7:15 for Infants and between 7:15 and 8:15 for juniors? It will start again on September 12th and I'll remind you again in the new term.

Well done to **Horsmonden Cricket Club** teams, represented by Joseph Rigby, Sam Stephenson, Michael Connell, Ollie Bignell, Reuben Veysey-Smith, Tommy Fancett, Bradley Read, Lukas Owen, Georgie Ridge, Ben Baker, Louis Ridge, Oscar Knight, Joe Ferguson and Alf Percival who all have good reason to be proud of their achievements. There's a match report on the children's noticeboard opposite mine in the entrance hall.

Horsmonden provides some great opportunities for children through various partnerships and providers. Tunbridge wells Borough Council have kindly offered to provide some entertainment on our village Green this summer via the **Big Lottery Funded Play Provision**. This will come in the form of a mobile climbing wall and Skate Park as well as general activities.

These events will be held on the Village Green, as follows:

Monday 4th August 2008 (1pm till 5pm) – Mobile climbing wall and general play activities

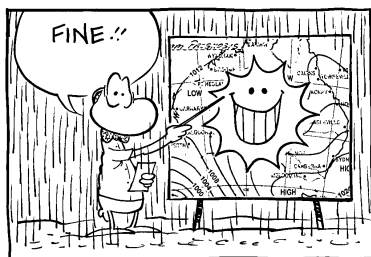
Monday 11th August 2008(1pm till 5pm) – Mobile Skate Park and general play activities

Monday 18th August 2008(1pm till 5pm) – Mobile climbing wall and general play activities

Monday 25th August 2008(1pm till 5pm) – mobile Skate Park and general play activities.

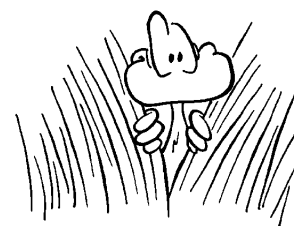
There will also be an art or dance activity on at least one of the above dates. These sessions are free and children do not need to book in advance or register. In addition to encouraging young people to have fun and enjoy themselves, there will be access to the health, social and developmental aspects of play, with children having an opportunity to take part in activities which they have not done before, thus building their confidence and self esteem. For more information, look out for the posters and brochures which will be distributed nearer to the time.

School Campout will take place this weekend. There are plenty of hardy campers, including Mrs Hacker, who is once and for all scotching her reputation for the soft life. We're utterly optimistic about the weather and there's a letter accompanying this newsletter with all the details you need.



Yours sincerely,

Malcolm E. Hayes
Headmaster



Attachments:
School uniform letter & form (R – Y5)
Campout letter
Piano tuition letter
"Just Dance" leaflet
"La Jolie Ronde" leaflet
Farmers' Market leaflet
Year 2 swimming letter (Y1 only)

