



Horsmonden Primary School

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Headmaster:

Mr Malcolm E. Hayes

17th October 2008

Dear Parents,

It was a delightful occasion on Wednesday morning when we gave a formal welcome to the new children in Reception with the **Special Book Assembly**. They make up a larger class than we have had in the last 4 years, and there are several very young children among them, but none of that takes anything away from what is a really lovely class. We were all very proud of them for the way in which they stood up to speak in front of the whole school and their relatives and we have high hopes and aspirations for them throughout their primary school experience.

A few parents were a little embarrassed earlier this week when the class teacher walked in whilst they were reading through the teacher's notes. On the one hand, it's easy to make judgement and ask how any of us would feel at someone else looking through our work files, but we also understand that you're keen to know about your child's progress. It's important to respect the privacy of a teacher's notes and the work of other children, but it's also good to know that you do have opportunities to get a good understanding of your child's learning when you come to **Learning Evaluation Sessions**. These occasions are easily as important as parent/teacher consultation sessions because they give you the opportunity to sit down alongside your child and have a conversation about your child's learning that is meaningful and helps give them pride in their achievements. Many of these are linked to class assemblies and the dates are all on the website and in the New Year Starter Pack.

Immediately after half-term we will be starting the first of our **out of hours care** afternoons. The full facility has yet to be built, but we'd like to get things going on a couple of afternoons each week to help us in knowing how best to utilise what will be an excellent facility after half term. Attached to this newsletter is a form giving you full details that requires a response from those of you wishing to use the service. E-letter subscribers can return this form electronically.

The **football and netball teams** have been in action this week and both can be proud of their results. The football team lost 2-1 to Pembury (twice the size of us) which, considering the lack of team practice this year, was a better than expected result. The netball teams also played Pembury winning two matches and losing the third in a very creditable result. Well done to all children involved.

Many thanks to those of you who signed up for **Wine and Wisdom** night. Whilst there was quite a good response, it's not enough to really get the atmosphere going, so we have postponed the evening until the spring when we'll hope to get more teams from other organisations in the village competing for intellectual supremacy.

The children will be holding their own brainbox event with **Quiz and Fizz** on Thursday. There are still some spaces available and you don't have to be part of a team to sign up; if you want to take part, we can create teams from those who will be there, so please talk to your teacher if you'd like to participate but haven't yet filled in the form.

Next Friday is **Apple Day**, in which Years 4 and 5 will be heading for the Farmers' Market to engage in some traditional apple games. Apples form a big part of our local economy and we're making connections for the children through the market. We do need some parents to help lead the games and supervise children so if you are able to help on the day, please see Miss Dunn or Miss Hudson.

Yours sincerely,

Malcolm E. Hayes
Headmaster



And now some messages from the community

Horsmonden Parish Council invites you to come to a Public meeting and discussion on Refuse, Recycling and Public conveniences, at Horsmonden Village Hall (Back Lane) on Tuesday 21st October. Refreshments will be served from 7.15pm, with the meeting commencing at 7.30pm. The guest speaker is Richard Powell – Director of services for the Community (TWBC) who will be there to answer your questions.

An Auction of Promises will be held in the School Hall on the evening of the 15th November commencing at 7pm. A complimentary drink will greet you on arrival, followed by a light supper & coffee.

The main event will commence at 8.30pm with an array of promises, various holiday homes both here in the UK & abroad have been promised, a trip to Big Ben, off road driving in a 4x4 wheel for over 12's, an antique desk, meal for 2 at a restaurant in Cranbook and various other superb promises. This event is being held to raise funds for both, St Margaret's Church and Hospice of the Weald.

Tables of 8 are available for booking as a group, or just come along for an evening of fun and grab a bargain or that extra special Christmas present! Please note, only cash or cheques can be taken in payment of winning bids.

Tickets are £10 and must be booked in advance (which includes a 2 course meal, coffee & Catalogue) and are available from Dawn Brockman on 01892 723169, Kate Hart Dyke (01892 722545) or in person at Crowhursts (the Newsagent) or at the Post Office. Or Email dawn_brockman@hotmail.com

There will be a licensed Bar available on the evening. Tickets are selling fast already, and it will be a strictly on a first come first served basis so you are advised to purchase yours quickly! If you have any enquiries regarding this event, please contact either of the above who will be more than happy to help! Both Dawn and Kate will be pleased to hear from anyone who has a product or service which they are willing to offer for the Auction (Closing date for catalogued items 7/11/08)

There is a Youth & Kids Rock Service this Sunday at the School at 10.30 a.m.

This service is designed for young people, both primary & secondary school and their parents and is very participative with games, quizzes, music led by the youth and some fun bible teaching.

This Sunday the "teaching" is the story of Jesus healing the 10 lepers and there are therefore synergies with the leprosy assembly held at school. The service normally lasts 45 minutes and you are warmly invited to join.

Paper Attachments:

- Bookfair leaflets
- Half term dance school leaflet
- Extended Services booking form (electronic for E-letter)