



Michael Drayton Junior School

Newsletter

April 2010

Dates for your diary:

- **Monday 26th April** - 4pm, PTA Meeting
- **Friday 30th April** - Celebration Assemblies
- **Monday 3rd May** - Bank Holiday
- **Monday 10th May** - **Friday 14th May** - SATS Week
- **Friday 21st May** - Fun and Games Evening
- **Tuesday 25th May** - Parents' Coffee Morning
- **Monday 31st May** - **Friday 4th June** - Half Term
- **Monday 7th June** - Teacher Training Day
- **Saturday 17th July** - Summer Fayre
- **Friday 23rd July** - School Closes

Message from the Headteacher

Welcome to our first newsletter after the Easter holidays. I think everyone made it back with the exception of one family still stranded in Australia!!

This is a very long term and already the diary is getting filled with activities and visits, many of these are supported by the PTA. Our PTA members and helpers have recently become rather low in numbers. It would be great if you could help boost numbers. If you are able to help, please contact either Trish Wood or Ann Webb via the School Office. I do hope you are able to support our school in this way.

John Buxton, Headteacher.

*** Improved Site Security***

Closure of Church Road Pedestrian Gate.

As part of a review of the school's safeguarding procedure, the school's Governing Body has decided that the pedestrian gate on the Church Road entrance will be locked between 9.15am - 3.10pm. Entrance to the school during this time can be accessed via The Woodlands entrance. This will be effective from **Tuesday 4th May**.

The gate at the Woodlands Entrance will be closed but not locked during the school day. Any visitors accessing the site should close the gate behind them and report to Reception.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause, however, the safeguarding of children is of the highest priority.



Keeping our pupils safe.



New Email Service

In addition to our successful Text Messaging service, we have now signed up for a new Email Service for parents.

We intend to use this service to help our Eco School's status by Emailing letters and information to

parents who have provided us with an Email address rather than sending paper copies. This will also help to ensure that parents actually receive our letters (rather than them being left at the bottom of a school bag!) plus will reduce our printing and paper costs, which in a school the size of ours, are

pretty vast! Forms will be sent out asking parents, if they wish to do so, to provide us with Email addresses. We can send up to four Email addresses per pupil. For those who would prefer not to receive Emails from us, we will continue to send out paper copies of letters.

School Samba Band



The school was vibrating to the sound of drumming last term when our school Samba Band performed their grooves to parents. A good time was had by all and they hope to perform again at events throughout the Summer Term.

We now run an **adult samba band** here in our school hall from **6.30-8.00pm** on **Tuesdays**. Everyone is welcome and no musical experience is necessary. If you are interested, come along and give it a try!

Festival of Arts Winners

Congratulations to Charlotte Connor, 4Go and Erin Husband, 3Mc for both gaining a first place in the Festival of Arts for their artwork. Charlotte won a first place for her beautiful Matisse painting and Erin won a first place for her stunning mythical creature picture.



The Woodlands Entrance Car Park

Could we remind parents that The Woodlands entrance car park is for staff parking only and not for the dropping off or collection of children from school. We have noticed that this area is becoming increasingly congested at the end of the school day.

SEN

Following recent reviews, your child will be bringing home new IEPs or Provision Plans.

If you have any questions about these, please see the class teacher or make an appointment to see Mrs Webb.

What's Been Going on in School?

We have recently been joined by four work experience students from Hartshill High School who have been working with Years 3 and 4. One of the students will be staying on for an additional week. We hope they enjoyed their time with us.

We also welcomed two visitors last week who

had come all the way from New Zealand to look at ICT at our school. Barrie and Shona Eccles are both principals of schools in Palmerston North. They got a big surprise when 4Ga suddenly showed them a performance of the Hakka! Photos of this can be seen on Barrie's blog: <http://milsonkiwi.blogspot.com>



NZ teachers visit the school

Healthy Snacks

We are promoting healthy eating in school by holding a mini Healthy Options Competition - pupils log their healthy option snacks on a chart in their classroom and the year group who have had the healthiest break-time

choices during the week will get an extra hour on the tyre park on a Friday. We would ask for your support in encouraging your child to choose fruit or a similar healthy option for their morning break-time snack.



School Sports News

Cross Country

The Year 4 Cross Country team ran at St. Thomas More School and both the girls' and boys' teams came second place against great competition. The girls' team missed out on first place by only 1 point! Well done to Saffron Aiello, Ellie-Mae Abram, Emily Davies, Ella Brindley, Charlotte Connor and Mia Dolman in the girl's team and Caine Keeling-Treasure, Reece Hall, Jake Sharp and Mitchell Barr in the boy's team. A special mention goes to Saffron Aiello for winning the bronze medal in her race!

Spare Swimming kit

We are currently running low on spare swimming shorts for boys. Donations of any boys' swimming shorts for ages 6-12 would be most gratefully received. Please send for the attention of Mr. Rathbone.

Thank you!

House Cross Country Results

A big WELL DONE to all who took part in the Inter-House Cross Country last month. Some great races were run and we were lucky with the weather again. Here are the Individual Results:

Year 3 Girls - Jessica Moore (1st) Hollie Bateman (2nd) Caitlin Underwood (3rd)

Year 3 Boys - Callum Grewcock (1st) James Dewell (2nd) Jamie Price (3rd)

Year 4 Girls - Ellie-Mae Abram (1st) Emily Davies (2nd) Mia Dolman (3rd)

Year 4 Boys - Caine Keeling-Treasure (1st) Reece Hall (2nd) George Paintin (3rd)

Year 5 Girls - Elise Ward (1st) Sophie Gill (2nd) Deanna English (3rd)

Year 5 Boys - Joe Hadley (1st) Rees Swain (2nd) Rory Pearson (3rd)

Year 6 Girls - Briony Harris (1st) Jade Benizri (2nd) Eleanor Stockton (3rd)

Year 6 Boys - Joseph Middleton (1st) Jack Rothero (2nd) Thomas Ellis-Moore

The House results were:



Year 6 medal winners

Manor Adventure

The final instalment for your child's Manor Adventure is now due. Could you please pay the final balance as soon as possible. Cheques should be made payable to:

Michael Drayton Junior School

Dinner Money

Could all dinner money please be sent in on a Monday morning, including for those children who have the occasional meal. There is an increasing number of children paying their dinner money in on a daily basis which involves administrative time, both for teachers and the office staff. It would be most helpful if all dinner money is in a sealed envelope clearly marked with your child's name and class. All cheques should be made payable to:

Michael Drayton Junior School



We are Collecting!

Please send us your Tescos,

Sainsbury's Active Kids, Nestle Box Tops and Flora Cooking with Schools vouchers. They will help us to acquire new resources for our school. Post-boxes for the vouchers are located in the Main



Hall.

Thank you!



Well done to the following pupils who have achieved their Bronze, Silver or Gold Children's University Awards .

Bronze: Devon Page, Emily Smith, Chloe Genner, Joe Hadley, Kaylie Miller, Olivia Arnold, Ciaran McMurray, Caitlin Stokes, Molly White, Bethany White, Zoe Lowe, Grace Parmain, Heather Partlow, Sam Shirley, Chelsea Blount, Francesca Small, Chloe Wilson, Tami Clements, Lucy Cooper, Rebecca Grewcock, Lauren Roberts, Laura Hammonds, Elizabeth Suffolk, Alex Honey, Aaleyah Campbell, Luc Glover, David Wilson, Megan Pardoe, Declan Page, Reece Hall, Stephanie Moss, Chloe Phillips, Kelly Crouch, Mason Williamson, Grace Parmain.

Silver: Kian Gilbert, Aimee Hall, Madison Howarth, Alice Bentley, Elise Ward, Marty Bewell, Lydia Oerton, Tonicha Copson, Chloe Bickham, Summer De Slegte, Georgia Oerton, Jessica Smith, Callum Wood, Jade Benizri, Nicole Jessop, Jak Mullineaux, Indea Shepherd, Megan Whitehead, Megan Arms, Elizabeth Gurney.

Gold: Elise Ward and Eleanor Stockton



School Clubs

New clubs currently on offer:

Year 4 Gymnastics - Tuesdays, 8.00-8.45am

Year 5 Drama - Wednesdays, 3.30-4.30pm.

Coming soon:

Year 6 Computer Club - Thursdays, 3.30-4.30pm (letters will be sent out shortly).

Homework Clubs - Years 3 & 4 Tuesdays, Years 5 & 6 Mondays for one hour after school on a regular basis. Support with homework and access to the Internet for research. Please let the school know if you would be interested in your child attending.



Staff News

We said a fond farewell to Alice Windridge, one of our cleaners who retired on Friday 23rd April. We wish her all the best in her retirement.

Please could all telephone messages from parents to pupils be done before lunchtime to enable us to put them in the registers? Thank You!

Live to Learn



Learn to Live!