



# Packington

Church of England Primary School

September 2012

# Newsletter

DEAR ALL,

I hope you all had a fantastic summer break and, like us, are looking forward to an exciting year ahead. The first few days have gone extremely well and I've enjoyed spending some time in every class. I'm pleased to say that I have been impressed with the standard of work and the positive attitudes of pupils. So well done to them!



Can I also welcome all our new parents to our school community.

*Please do enjoy reading about our news and all the events we have planned for this term, and should you be unsure of anything then please do come and ask.*

## 'New Term Pack' ~

Next week you will receive the 'New Term Pack'. This will include the following documents and permission slips for signing:

**Village Visits / Photographs / Internet Access / Home School Agreement / Helping in School**

Please sign and return them as soon as you can so that our records are kept up-to-date.

## "Our Year of Questioning"

This year will be "Our year of Questioning", encouraging our pupils to develop their thinking skills and enquiring minds. Our work will once again link subjects and themes throughout the year including maths, science, philosophy our RE themed weeks and work on community cohesion, and for the first time we will incorporate activities to develop enterprise. More information is coming shortly.



## Welcome to Packington

We would like to welcome all our new pupils this term in the Foundation Stage:

Jack Avery, Karyn Brocklehurst, Layla Keller, Tilly Bennion, Luke Culwick, Oliver Mitchell, Sofia Bond, Ewan Howes, Dylan Cresswell, Zoe Kelsall, Ethan Dallow, Daniel Gammon, Samuel Lewis, Conrad Paine, Meren Nash, Ruby Tomlinson.

## Keep Our School Healthy

Remember healthy snacks only at break please!

**"Yes"** to fruit, veg', cereal bars, cheese!

**"No"** to crisps and sweets!



## Education Guides

A guide for parents of pupils moving to Secondary Education can be downloaded from

<http://www.leics.gov.uk/yourguide.htm>

## ACHIEVEMENT ASSEMBLIES

We would like to welcome you to our Achievement Assemblies that take place each Friday at 2:40 pm. Parents, grandparents, siblings, relations and friends are all welcome.

Our Achievement Assembly is a special time for the children and part of our timetable of Collective Worship, therefore we would appreciate your support in helping us to create a calm atmosphere for the children by ensuring you switch off mobile phones and encourage younger siblings to be as quiet as possible so it is an enjoyable experience for everybody. Many of our parents with very young children have said they like to sit near the doors so they can slip out if necessary or keep an eye on pushchairs in the small lobby ~ so please help us accommodate them by filling up seats further into the hall first. **Please note pupils in the FS don't attend Achievement Assemblies for the first few weeks. Mrs Rogers will let parents know when the children are ready to join in.**

## NEWS HEADLINES

**\*MRS WATSON** ~ Mrs Watson would like to say thank you for all the gifts and good wishes you sent her on her retirement. At the beginning of the term she presented the school with three shrubs to help us on our way to green the front of the school.

**\*LIFE EDUCATION** ~ The Life Education Bus will visit on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Oct. A different programme of activities is organised for each year group and this supports our PSHE and Science work.

**\*HARVEST FESTIVAL** ~ We are currently putting together our plans for our Harvest Festival which will take place on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> Oct at 9:15 am in the Church. More details to follow.

**\*FOOD TASTING VISIT** ~ Our new starters in the Robins will enjoy a special food tasting session organised by the School Food Team on Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Sept. Everybody will have the opportunity to sample a school dinner. (Pupils will need a lunch as normal.)

**\*INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS** ~ The school photographer will be visiting school on Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct so remember smart uniforms, combs and a winning smile! Further details will be with you shortly.

**\*CROSS COUNTRY** ~ The Small Schools Network is currently undergoing some changes and this has delayed the planning of our joint enrichment activities. As a result there are no dates yet set for Cross Country. I know many of you like to get them in your diary so we will write to you as soon as we have more details.

**\*REFURBISHMENT** ~ Apologies for any inconvenience while work to refurbish the front of the school takes place. We are currently having a special area made to store the bins away from the school entrance. Our Eco Team are eagerly awaiting the completion of the work so they can get to work on planting some new shrubs by the front gate.

**\*TRESPASSERS** ~ Over the summer we have had some damage to the school as a result of children coming onto the grounds. We are aware that some are ex pupils and as we have evidence of older children trying to retrieve balls from the courtyard it is with regret that we have had to inform the police. Please be aware that permission is not granted for children to play on the school grounds out of school hours.

Please remember we have an open door policy so should you have any concerns please contact your child's class teacher or myself. You can contact us either in school, by phone (01530 412425) or e-mail ([headteacher@packington.leics.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@packington.leics.sch.uk)).

## AT PACKINGTON WE WANT TO DO OUR BEST AND WORK TOGETHER.

### JESUS 2012: FAITH UP TO IT!

"Jesus 2012: Faith up to it" covers 9 days of fun events between 22<sup>nd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> September being organised by our local churches. Outlined below are some of the activities that Packington families may be interested in:

Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept 2pm-4pm **READY STEADY STICK** at Holy Rood Church

Open to all ages 5-11 who are welcome to bring their grown ups with them, and do need to bring their grown ups if they are 5 or under. The afternoon offers a mixture of craft activities (making a quilt), games, a bible story (looking at the story of Zacchaeus) and singing as well as refreshments. It is helpful if you book with Lesley Birtwistle (01530 413309) but it is not essential. There is no charge but you are free to make a donation.

Wed 26<sup>th</sup> Sept 9:30-11:30 am **Coffeeandchat@church** at Holy Rood Church

A chance to meet others over a cup of coffee (or tea) and biscuits.

Sat 29<sup>th</sup> Sept 10am-12 noon **"Have a go"** at Holy Rood Church

Have a go at playing a variety of musical instruments: the church organ, the church bells as well as a variety of familiar and unfamiliar instruments. It's a chance to try out your skills on instruments you may never have been near. Discover hidden talents and surprise yourself. Refreshments will be on hand.

Sun 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 12:15 for 12:30 pm **Barbecue time** at Measham church and hall

A celebration in food and friendship as Jesus 2012 draws to a close. The first course will be provided, but please bring a dessert or cake. This event will lead into a Songs of Praise finale.

### 21<sup>st</sup> Day

This year we will continue our "21<sup>st</sup> day" programme which involves children bringing home all the work carried out on a particular day in school to share with parents. The work will be placed in a folder; it may be written work, art work or a photograph of a practical activity ~ whatever has taken place. Our first 21<sup>st</sup> day will take place on 27<sup>th</sup> Sept. We hope you will enjoy finding out what your children have been doing at school.

**Please remember to send the folder back to school ASAP ready for the next instalment!**

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

W/c 10<sup>th</sup> Sept ~ Residential Visit to Bude  
12<sup>th</sup> Sept ~ Open the Book visit to lead Collective Worship  
19<sup>th</sup> Sept ~ Reading Workshop for parents of new starters  
20<sup>th</sup> Sept ~ Yr5/6 China Day  
W/c 24<sup>th</sup> Sept ~ Clubs start  
27<sup>th</sup> Sept ~ First 21<sup>st</sup> Day  
3rd Oct ~ School Photographs  
5th Oct ~ Life Education Bus Visit  
8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Oct ~ Parent Interviews  
16<sup>th</sup> Oct ~ Visit to Sudbury for FS/KS1  
17<sup>th</sup> Oct ~ Ragtex Collection  
19<sup>th</sup> Oct ~ Harvest Festival in Church  
31st Oct ~ Final date to apply for Secondary Schools (Yr6)  
W/C 5<sup>th</sup> Nov ~ RE Themed week on Questions about Belief  
9<sup>th</sup> Nov ~ Creative Time - Memories  
22nd Nov ~ Tree Planting at Jubilee Wood -KS2  
29th Nov ~ Eagles Class Assembly 9.15am  
30<sup>th</sup> Nov ~ Christingle Workshop and Assembly  
2nd Dec ~ Christingle Service in Church  
4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Dec ~ KS2 Christmas Concert  
10<sup>th</sup> Dec ~ Working Space Theatre  
12<sup>th</sup> Dec ~ KS1 Nativity  
18<sup>th</sup> Dec~ Christmas Creative Time  
19<sup>th</sup> Dec~ Christmas Party  
21st Dec ~ Carol Service in Church/ End of Term



### Some Reminders about Keeping Safe

**Photographs** ~ during the year we hold various events which parents may wish to record in some form either by photographs or video footage. Please remember that if you video or photograph groups of children at school functions the pictures you take are for family viewing only and must not be put on social media websites.

**Parking** ~ at the beginning and end of the day please park with consideration for others. Mill Street is always a problem and it is important that you do not use the verges as part of the road and the school gates are kept free from parked vehicles. Please remember that you can always park at the recreation ground behind the church and use Church Walk.

Parents picking children up from KS1 should enter school via Church Walk and walk around the front of the school to the Robins door and then exit via the path near the hall back to the playground.

### AT THE START AND END OF THE DAY:

**Please use the gate on Church Walk when bringing and collecting your children. Parents and Children should not walk through the school car park at any time. IT IS DANGEROUS!**

**Jewellery** ~ The wearing of jewellery is not allowed in school ~ it is not appropriate, can be a hazard and may be costly if lost. **Please note that this includes any fashion bands and bracelets. (Studs, sleepers and watches may be worn but pupils will be asked to remove them, or cover earrings for P.E and swimming.)** Many thanks for your support on this.

**Hair** ~ Long hair should be tied back at all times both for hygiene and safety reasons but on a more simple level children find it difficult to work if they constantly have to move hair out of their eyes or can't see properly.

### **PLEASE REMEMBER TO LABEL ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING WITH YOUR CHILDS NAME!**

**It really helps us, and helps your child keep their belongings safe!**

### READING WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS OF FS/KS1

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 6 pm**

**The Eagles Classroom**

This workshop will cover how we teach reading at Packington and how you can help your child. This workshop is suitable for all parents and especially parents new to the school. The workshops have been well received by parents over the last few years so please put the date in your diary and look out for the flyer.