



FitzHerbert C of E (VA) Primary School

Learning as a Family, Growing as a School

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Dear Parents

I want to start by saying a HUGE well done to every child for taking part in our Annual Speaking Competition on Wednesday. This is an age old tradition, organised each year by one of our Governors, Mrs Hughes. Not only did each child stand up and recite some poetry, a rhyme or a story but they did so in front of the whole school, staff and Mrs Hughes and Mrs Smith who were our judges. I was so proud of the effort that everyone went to and that everyone tried. It was a really hard decision - I'm so glad I didn't have to choose! Our very deserved winners were

- Key Stage 1 - Orla Duncker-Brown (Reception)
- Years 3 & 4 - Imogen Pot
- Years 5 & 6 - Keeley Ryan

Well done to all of you! Our thanks again to Mrs Hughes for arranging the event and for Mrs Smith for being our guest judge this year.

Happy Herbets

We are pleased to announce that Happy Herbets will begin again from next Tuesday, 8th November. We are very lucky that Mrs Clegg and Ms Etherington have kindly offered to help get it off the ground and run the session - of course, we are always looking for extra helpers too. The group will run from 2.00 - 3.15pm each Tuesday during term time in the school hall and is open to all pre-school aged children and their parents/carers.

School Library

Our school library will open at lunchtimes from next week for all children to be able to check out books from our vast selection. The library sessions will be run by some of the older children, and we are very grateful to Mrs Webb who has offered to come in and show the children how our library system works since she is the expert!

After School Clubs

Just a reminder that our after school clubs begin next week - Monday is Fencing for Key Stage 2 children, Wednesday is Cookery for Key Stage 1 children and Thursday is Olympic Multi Sports for the whole school. Each club runs from the end of school until 4.45 and lasts for 5 weeks (last sessions are on week commencing 5th December). There are still spaces on the Fencing and Olympic Multi Sports clubs, if your child(ren) want to join up then please return their forms on Monday.

Reading at Home

Now we have settled in after our first half term, we have been reviewing the amount of times that each child is reading at home. We cannot stress how important it is for your child to really invest time in reading regularly at home, and we would like to see each child reading on 5 occasions across the week. This needs to be recorded in their reading records and signed by a parent/carer. We would encourage an adult to sit with children as they read, as sometimes it is the comprehension and understanding of text rather than the ability to read the words that children struggle with. Many thanks for your support with this.

Hats and Gloves Donations

As the weather is turning colder now, we would like children to bring in a hat and gloves as it does get particularly cold on the playground. Mrs Morley is also asking for any donations of hats and gloves to be brought in so that we have a supply of them if we have an unexpected cold day. Please bring any donations into the school office for her attention. Thank you!

Parent Governor Vacancy

Don't forget that we have a Parent Governor Vacancy. Nominations need to be brought into school by 12.00 noon next Friday, 11th November. If you need any more information about being a Governor at school then please don't hesitate to speak to any of our Governors (their details are on the school website) or Ms Miller, Clerk to Governors.

Are You Interested In Becoming a Teacher?

From September next year, you can apply through UCAS for a teacher training position based at local schools including ours. We are part of the Dove Valley Schools Teaching Alliance and they, along with the University of Derby and QEGS have launched a training programme which gives hands-on classroom experience alongside traditional studies. If you would like more information about this then please don't hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes

Linda Hack