



HARVEST THANKS

The first half of the Autumn Term went by both quickly and smoothly with all pupils having settled in well to their new classes and routines.

The many weeks of learning songwords in readiness for the Harvest Festival at the church paid off with superb performances from children in Maple class right through to our Years 6 pupils.

We continue to feel both proud and overwhelmed by the number of parents and other family members who attended

the service. We hope the revised seating arrangements provided a better view of the singing and performing.

We were also proud of the fact that we were able to contribute to the wider community as a result of the many food items which you donated. Team members from the Food Bank in Milton Keynes collected the fare the following day and we have already received a letter of thanks for our valued contribution.

The acts of 'giving' and

'showing appreciation' are lessons the children have had reinforced as a direct result of Harvest this year. I would like to take this opportunity to mention Molly Masters in Maple class whose verbal contribution to the Harvest assembly led by Sue Wood from then Food Bank showed maturity and an incredible empathy for people less fortunate than ourselves. Well done Molly!

House System update

All children have now been allocated a House and it has been interesting to witness at such an early stage of this new initiative, how supportive the children are of their peer house members.

Heads of House and Deputy Heads of House have also been assigned and our first Full House meetings will take place next week.

DEER HOUSE

Head:
Deputy:

OWL HOUSE

Head:
Deputy:

SQUIRREL HOUSE

Head:

Deputy

FOX HOUSE

Head:

Deputy

Inside this issue:

Harvest thanks	1
House System update	1
ICT update	2
School's Council	2
School Security, Disabled parking, School Meals	2
Dates for your diary	2

Special points of interest:

- Mrs Czornyj has got the choir involved in a project called 'Moving on Up'. The first event takes place this Friday. Check out the website next week for information on how we get on.
- Denim for Diabetes day - Friday 11th November. For a small donation, staff and children should dress in denim on that day to raise awareness about this condition.

My previous newsletters have given some indication on where we are with our overhaul of ICT hardware across the school. Well, we are very nearly there!

Nearly all of the hardware has been delivered and during the half term break wireless access points were being installed around the Salcey building. During the week ahead, technicians will be installing software on the new server and onto the five stand-alone PCs which will be housed in Linford. We are really looking for-

ward to the children having access to the 32 laptops to support their learning across the curriculum. We will also have a new screen and projector installed in Salcey Hall which we feel will make a huge difference in respect of leading assemblies, singing practices and any other whole school events.

An additional interactive whiteboard is being installed in the ICT suite which will, henceforth have a dual purpose as a suite and a teaching area for whole classes or small groups.

The new School Council members for 2009-10 have now been elected. Congratulations on your new roles to:

Year 1:

Year 2: Laura Evans

Year 3:

Year 4:

Year 5:

Year 6:

General Administration and Housekeeping

SCHOOL SECURITY

An annual review of security around the school has led us to make some minor adjustments to access during the course of the school day.

Following a meeting of the Governors Premises Committee it was agreed that, in order to improve security, the gate leading to Western Drive will be closed between 9.15am and 2.45pm each day. This means that access to the school will be from the main gate only outside of these times.

In addition to this, the gate which leads to the undercover walkway be-

tween Salcey and Linford Halls will also be closed at the end of the day. As such, parents who are waiting to collect children from clubs will have to access the school via the main door. In doing this, we feel that we are better able to monitor visitors to the school at the end of the school day.

Parents/carers who collect children from 326 should continue to do so from the KS1 entrance to Linford Hall.

DISABLED PARKING

A disabled parking sign will be painted onto one of our parking bays

in the school car park. This will be located directly in front of the double gates which lead to the main playground. We hope this will facilitate access for our disabled visitors.

SCHOOL MEALS

Just a quick reminder that the school has little input into the administration of school meals. Please can you ensure that any orders are presented to the office by xxxx each week as they are collected by Cygnet that afternoon. We are unable to chase or follow up any late orders. Queries about any orders should be made directly to the Cygnet Team on xxxxxxxxx.

Dates for your diary

Weds 4th Nov: Consultation Evening
3.30—6.00

Thursday 5th Nov: Consultation Evening
5.30 - 8.00pm

P.O.S.H. group meets in the Children's Centre at 7.00pm. This group is for any parent or carer of family members with specific needs ranging from health issues to xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Friday 11th November: Denim for Diabetes day. A Denim Mufty day.

w/c 16th November: National Anti-Bullying Week

Saturday 21st November: Cross Country Heats at The Bowl

Saturday 5th December: Choir sings at Castlethorpe Village Hall

Monday 7th Dec: KS1 Christmas performance 1.30pm

Tuesday 8th Dec: KS1 Christmas concert 10.00a.m.

Tuesday 15th Dec: KS2 Christmas concert in church at 10.00am. The collection will go towards the Organ Fund.

Tuesday 15th Dec: School Disco

Friday 18th Dec: School closes for Christmas holidays

Monday 4th Jan 2010: INSET DAY

Tuesday 5th Jan: School resumes