

VICTORIA DOCK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Working together for your children

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May Newsletter, 2010

Dear Parents,

We are now at the end of another half-term and the weather has been reasonably great. Thank you to the PTFA for continuing to support the school in purchasing extras for the children in many ways. This term we have managed to get extra equipment for various clubs which all children benefit from.

Cober Hill

The Year 5 residential trip to Cober Hill took place and has been a great success, as always. The children behaved brilliantly as expected. A massive thank you to all of the staff who gave their time for no extra pay to accompany the children, lead various activities and ensure the children were always safe whilst taking part in new and exciting, character building activities.

Football Tournament

The Year 6 team won the Victoria Dock Challenge Cup, beating our own Year 5 team in the semi-final before winning the final against Mersey. The semi-final saw a 'school derby' with the result requiring penalties to split the teams. All performed well and should be proud of themselves.

Bicycles, Scooters and Wheels Galore

A kind reminder that the children (and adults) should not be riding bicycles, scooters or other things inside of the school gates. I have noticed several children (and adults) doing so and if one can, then all can and the safety of all is then an issue. Thank you for your co-operation in advance. Hopefully I will not be challenging individuals about it directly.

Out of School Visits

Visits out of school are a key way of enriching the learning that goes on and can inspire various ideas. The children in Mrs Derrick's and Miss Reed's class have enjoyed some trips to Honeysuckle Farm during May and the work children have shared following the visits has been impressive. The children came back all excited and full of enthusiasm about sheep, fish, goats and many other farm animals. All children in Key Stage One have been to East Park and had planned activities with the Park Rangers, again something they returned to school 'buzzing' about.

Hull 10K Run

The Hull 10K run on 23rd May has now passed and our staff members who took part all finished the run in pleasing times. Despite the aches and after effects, all managed to return to work the following Monday. Well done to all including the many parents and friends who also took part. Thank you also to all those who sponsored us.

Continued...

"This is a good school with some outstanding features. It gives its pupils a good standard of education and helps them to achieve well and reach above average standards." OfSTED November 2007



Car Parking

I have received a few comments about the improper use of the 'Disabled' parking spaces at the front of the school. I appreciate that parking is difficult but please refrain from using these spaces unless you are disabled as they are there for a reason. The car-park at Spar is not that far away for the able-bodied. Still on the subject of car-parking, the staff car-park is for the use of school staff, not parents. It has been noticed that certain parents have been using the staff car-park – please don't or barriers will be put in place.

Sharing Ideas and Concerns

I will continue to be out and about in the playground every morning possible and welcome all informal chats about how things are going and if nothing else... the weather! We do take all reported incidents seriously and deal with them – if you have experienced otherwise I want to know about it.

Please be aware that staff are unable to have a conversation once the morning whistle has gone as it is unfair for the children to be kept waiting to get into school and get on – staff will be out a couple of minutes before the whistle blows for any quick queries specific to their class, otherwise a short note or appointment is better for all concerned. I am sure you understand this.

Dinner Options and Payment

Please remember to get lunch option/Breakfast forms into the office in very good time (Thursday/Friday of the week before). Payments for lunch should be placed in an envelope, clearly labelled and handed to the class teacher (not office), during registration by the child. Our office staff work very hard as it is and lines of parents handing in forms and making payments makes it unnecessarily more difficult. Your co-operation with this would be appreciated. A reminder that the school has special envelopes for lunch money should wish to purchase some.

Holidays in Term Time

The school does have a strict 'No Holidays in Term Time Policy' which all have agreed to by virtue of joining the school after reading the school prospectus. We do unfortunately have many who do not have 'exceptional' circumstances for taking a holiday in term time and also 'forget' to send a note to let the school know. Please read the school prospectus again (available on the school website) to remind yourselves what 'exceptional circumstances' are then please support the school and its policies.

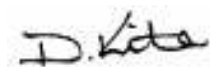
Sunny Weather

With the fabulous weather now with us (however irregular it may be) it is worth considering sending your child with a suitable sunhat (or purchasing a cap from school) to protect them from the sun. It is also worth considering apply some sun cream to your child before they come to school. We all want them to be safe and avoid sunburn/sun stroke. Water bottles are also available from the school office if children want to have a drink during lessons.

And Finally...

Thank you to all of the parents and grandparents who have very kindly volunteered to help in school with readers, gardening, trips and everything else – it is greatly appreciated by all of the staff and does make a positive difference to all of the children. We have had various visitors in school recently for a number of reasons and they all comment about the great attitude of all involved, children and adults and are massively impressed by the ethos. Your part in that is huge so thank you!

Yours sincerely



Mr. D. Kite
Head Teacher