



Newsletter

1st October 2009



The messages that some children take home never cease to amaze us! The Eco-Club have been asked to consider wastage in school, especially that of water and electricity. It was suggested that the taps should not be left running when the children are washing up the art materials. From that some children seem to have gone home and said that they are not to wash their hands any more because it wastes water! Can we just make it clear that the children are told that they must wash their hands with soap and the taps in the cloakrooms are all self-stopping; we were only talking about the art sinks. This is an obvious misunderstanding but it is amazing, the lengths to which some children will go to avoid washing.

Walk to School fortnight (5th – 16th October) – during Walk to School month, Trafford has chosen the next two weeks for their event. It is a very exciting project, where the plan is for the children to complete a virtual walk around Europe. Each classroom has a poster and every day the children who have walked, ridden bikes or scooters, used public transport, travelled on the school bus or parked and walked the last ten minutes to school will be able to colour in a footprint on the poster and see where the class has reached. In addition, each child will receive a sticker for their travel card. At the end of the two weeks, the class poster totals will be entered into a Trafford competition, as will the travel cards with ten stickers. There are then some great prizes to be won. As the crossing officer has still not materialised, staff will cover the Grange Road crossing point during these two weeks. We hope that everyone will participate, last time 80% of children walked, so we have a high target.



Parking and collecting from school problems

- We are starting to get a few complaints from neighbours again about parking. Please remember to be considerate; it can be difficult for our neighbours at certain times, as you can imagine.
- The drop-off zone is working beautifully in the mornings but less well at collection times. Parents are just sitting in the turning circle waiting for their children. This is not how it should be used and at busy times 3pm and 3.15pm it is causing great difficulty. If you need to stop for longer than about 30 seconds, then please park and walk down to school.
- A parent mentioned that it is very difficult to get through the crowds at the Cricket Club entrance onto the Junior playground, especially when struggling with a pushchair. If parents/carers are waiting near to the Wizard and the Junior play area, please ensure that there is a clear path for pushchairs.



School Open Days – most of the independent school open days are coming up. If you are interested in looking at these schools, please check their websites for details. Altrincham College of Arts open evening is tonight 5pm – 8pm.

Reporting Absence – In line with current guidelines, we are reviewing our safeguarding policy. If your child is unexpectedly absent from school (illness, forgotten dentist appointment etc.) please telephone school on the first day of their absence and send in a note on their return to school. If a child is unaccounted for by 9.30am, we will telephone just to make sure that they are safe at home.

Keys found – a set of keys (Honda) have been found in the school flowerbed. They look like they have been there for some time but if you think that they may be yours, please check at the office.



PTA jewellery recycling scheme – The PTA has registered for a jewellery recycling scheme, which will fundraise for school. Bags for this will be sent out around the 7th October and will be collected for pick up on the 21st October. This is not the same as the scheme advertised on the TV; damaged, broken and costume jewellery can be included.

Tri golf and multi-sports festivals – Y2 had a fabulous afternoon yesterday. Some children went to Sale Golf Club for a Tri-golf festival, playing with teams from several local schools. The other Y2 children took part in a multi-skills festival here on our school field. This was a superb event and it was fully inclusive, with children from Pictor House School, Navigation Road and Park Road. Everyone enjoyed the experience and it was an opportunity to for our children to appreciate our school field and to share it with others.

Harvest Festival – The school Harvest Festival services take place next Friday. The one for Reception and Y1 will be held at school at 9.15pm with the one for Y2 upwards being held at St. Mary’s church at 2pm. Friends and family are invited to the church; if you are attending, please complete the slip at the bottom of this letter to take your child straight home with you at the end. All other children will be walked back to school. Harvest donations are going to the Wood Street Mission in Manchester, who support local disadvantaged children and families – a charity well worth supporting. The Mission make up Christmas parcels which include non-perishable food and our donations go towards these. If possible please package donations attractively and these will form a display in the hall for the infant service. The parcels are then taken up to church for our own service and to be included in the church service the following Sunday at 10.45am.



Parent Choir – This will be starting the first Wednesday after half-term at 7.45pm. Anyone is welcome, just come along on the night. We could still do with a few more men!



Community and Local Business Fair on 6th October 6:30 – 9:00 pm at The Hub, Pownall Road, Altrincham, WA14 2SZ (End of Pownall Road next to The Tatton Arms.) Come and meet over 40 businesses, sample their wares and discuss their services face to face.

For further details contact Helen Hawksworth on 0790 5791115

Data collection forms – please ensure that these have been updated and returned to school.

Child/children’s name(s):Class(es):.....

I/we will be attending the Harvest Festival Service at St. Mary’s on October 9th and will be taking our child/children home with us.

I will be able to help with walking up to church and back down to school

I will be able to help with taking the parcels up to church at 10.30am (car needed)

Signed:.....