



ST. NICHOLAS C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER—APRIL 2010



Welcome Back!

It's already been some year this year with Swine Flu, Ice and Snow and now Volcanic Ash! Fortunately all the staff at St Nicholas were able to return to work for the beginning of term and we were fortunate not to have to deal with any disruption, which has not been the case in some schools.

Staffing Appointments

I am delighted to be able to tell you that we have made two very strong appointments for key posts in school. Miss Taylor performed incredibly well under a good deal of pressure at interview and has secured the post of Deputy Headteacher from 1st September 2010. There will be changes for Year 6 from September but I will write and let you know about these plans when they have been finalised.

We have also appointed Mrs Rachel Horobin as our Business Manager with effect from 4th May 2010. Rachel comes with a great deal of experience in this work having been the Business Manager at Baines Endowed C of E Primary School (Marton).

We also have Miss Ramsden beginning her work as Foundation Stage leader and Miss Jordin starting with us as Early Years Teaching Assistant in Reception. We hope that you will all be very happy with us. As the school grows we are advertising other posts. We currently have adverts out for:

- An Office Receptionist
- A Key Stage 1 teacher
- A Teaching Assistant
- An Assistant Headteacher / Inclusion Manager



Twitter

We are keen to keep parents as informed as possible and therefore we have moved across from the Blog to a more immediate form of communication, which you can find on your phone, which is Twittering. If you are not sure what this is and would like to know more then please come and ask.

For regular Twitterers, you can find us at stnicholas14 and we usually post something each day.



Quiz and Curry Night

A big thank you to all who attended. I know there were 54 people there because I made curry for them all!

It was a great night and new officials were elected to run the PTFA, details are below.

If you would like to make the curry, details are on our school website!

Modesty prevents the teachers quiz team from saying who won the quiz by 1 mark!!



PTFA Annual General Meeting

Mrs. Woodcock thanked all who have worked in whatever capacity to make the past 12 months so successful for the PTFA.

The following officers were nominated and elected unopposed:

Chair: Mrs. Luxford (Year 2 parent)

Treasurer: Mrs. Williams (Year 1 parent)

Secretary: Miss Harper + Miss Donnelly (staff)

Don't forget: Thursday 6th May is Textile Collection Day (see the flyer sent out tonight) and Friday 7th May at 7.30 pm is the Wine Tasting Evening (see the flyer for further information) Tickets now available from the office.

Attendance

At the end of this newsletter there is a diagram showing the impact of absence on attainment. Put in a straightforward way, the more time off school = the less chance your child has of achieving. For many people 90% attendance sounds high but when you consider that 90% attendance = 1 day out of school every 2 weeks, this shows the amount of learning that is missed. If we are going to make the most of our children's education then they need to be in school.



Absence = Less chance of doing well at school.

Monday 3rd May

Just a quick reminder that this day is a Bank Holiday and that school will be closed on this day.

Extended Services Building

The Extended Services Building is now nearly completed and will open in May. The Extended Services Team would like to know what services parents and the community would like to be put on in the centre. Feel free to speak with me or Tweet or email with ideas for how it might be used.

The team want to provide the community with the services that the community wants.

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www.st-nicholas.blackpool.sch.uk, Andrew.mellor@st-nicholas.blackpool.sch.uk Headteacher: Mr A Mellor B.C.S., P.G.C.E., NPQH

Vouchers!

We are collecting Tesco and Flora margarine vouchers and would be grateful for these, thank you.

General Election - School to be used as Polling Station

The school will remain open during polling for the General Election on May 6th. We will secure the front of the hall for voting which will keep voters entirely separate from the rest of the school.



Email Addresses

If you have a new email address or you would simply like to be part of our parental email list and get the news from school first and be part of our surveys, then please send your email address to school for the attention of Mr Mellor.

Website

Please keep a close eye on the website as it changes frequently. Recent updates include Parental Engagement information in the parents section and the School Blogs section.

www.st-nicholas.blackpool.sch.uk

Twitter: stnicholas14

Local Parking

Local residents have again contacted me about the lack of respect shown for their driveways and access. I have advised them to contact the Police if any behaviour is offensive or anti social as this then becomes a Police matter. In the meantime I would ask parents to think carefully about where vehicles are left and to consider the needs of local residents.

Councillor Kenrick

Councillor Kenrick is one of our local ward councillors and is using the school to hold surgeries for any local constituents who would like to speak with her about local matters. She is available in school from 4:30 until 5:30 on the first Monday of every month.



Qualifications for Parents

You may remember some time ago that I asked if there were any parents wanting to do the next qualification in their learning journey. We now have contacts with Blackpool and Fylde College and they want to know how many parents would be interested in anything between an NVQ and degree. Please leave your name with the office or email Mr Mellor.

School-Level Key Stage 2 results by Overall Absence Rate 2003-4

