

# St. Nicholas Church of England Primary School



## *Newsletter - May 2008*

### **OFSTED**

As you will know, we received a call at 9am Monday morning (21st April) to say that we would be inspected two days later! The school received two inspections on the same day. One was from OFSTED and the second was from the Diocese of Blackburn. The OFSTED inspection was a "reduced tariff" inspection which means that OFSTED believe that we are a good school which only needs a shorter inspection. We received interim feedback from the teams on Wednesday 23rd April and have responded to a draft OFSTED report. We now need to wait for the OFSTED head office to quality assure this report before it is published on the OFSTED website on Tuesday 13th May.

All parents will be receiving a hard copy of the report and if there are any parents who would like it emailing as well and aren't on our newsletter email distribution list you will need to let Mrs Boyce have your email address.

We have been told by OFSTED that until the report is published it is confidential, but our initial reaction to the report is positive!

### **Groupcall**

As you may have noticed, we have changed our text message provider to a more cost effective solution. We will be using this service which has been well received by parents to keep parents updated about general school issues such as parents evening, sports day etc.

Official school texts will always have the title Groupcall. Any that don't are not messages from school.

**If you don't receive a message and have given us your mobile number, please contact Mrs Boyce at the school office.**

## **Year 6 SATs tests**

The year 6 children will be taking their national SATs tests during the week beginning 12th May. Can we ask that children in Year 6 make an extra special effort to be in school for this important week.

## **Year 6 visit to France - July 2008**

We have applied for our collective passport and now require the remaining payments for this visit by Thursday 22nd May at the very latest.

Mr Mellor visited the centre and did a risk assessment of the centre and trips and has photographs to share with parents at our final preparation meeting in school on Wednesday 18th June at 6pm. At this meeting we will be issuing final instructions and kit list etc.

## **Do you want your child to get credit for their out of school learning?**

The school runs a project whereby children at St Nicholas get credit for the learning that they do outside school whether it be horse riding, swimming or ballet lessons. We then have a big graduation ceremony in school where the children get credited for their learning.

If you would like your child to be part of this scheme, then please contact Mr Mellor for a form or arrange to come and see me either at hometime or via Mrs Boyce.

## **Emailed Newsletter**

If you would like a copy of the newsletter emailed to you directly, then please let Mrs Boyce have your email address and we will add you to the distribution list.

## **Building News**

Over the holidays work has continued and we now have the roof more or less watertight. We are currently putting the window frames in and many classrooms have been plastered. It is unlikely that the children will be able to move into these new classrooms until September as we need to acquire fire safety certificates once the building is complete.

## **New Caretaker**

We interview this week for this post and have a large field to select from.

## **Dinner Money**

The school office is struggling to keep the amounts of small change to return to parents for dinner money. In future, any overpayment will be credited to your child's dinner money account for future dinners unless you would prefer to pay by cheque which means that the money is safe coming to school and is precisely the right amount. The office staff are always happy to work out what is owed by parents upon request.

## **Sports Days**

The Infant sports day has been planned for the morning Tuesday 1st July and the Junior sports day for Thursday 3rd July in the afternoon.

If these days are rain affected, we have reserve dates of 8th July (am) for Infants and 10th July (pm) for Juniors.

