

# Rayleigh Primary

## Parent Newsletter



15<sup>th</sup> October 2011.

### Playtimes.

Obviously as the cold months arrive we ask that children bring suitable clothes and shoes to school labelled with their names. We ask parents to remember that we do not seek to ban any toy from playtime. We ask that balls are made of sponge to prevent injury and approximately 15 cm across. Also, that toys brought to school can be carried in one hand and fitted into the child's tray.

We still have children who choose to eat their packed lunch under our shades and in our outdoor classrooms. We always ask that packed lunches are 'wrapper free', snacks being placed in named Tupperware containers. This keeps our playground tidy and safer for all.

### Parent Evenings 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> November

Our Parent Evenings are coming quickly, these ten minute slots enable teachers to inform you of the targets for your child in the coming year.

We remind all parents that you are welcome to book a longer time to discuss any specific matter regarding your child by contacting the office.

We remind parents of Nursery and Reception children that this is our first year of managing younger children starting school. We are particularly interested in your views and any way we can improve the start for our youngest children.

### Nursery Open Evenings 8<sup>th</sup> Nov 3.30 - 5.00pm & 9<sup>th</sup> Nov 5.00 - 7.30pm

The Nursery will be having 'open sessions' instead of parent evenings. We encourage all who are interested to visit. We still have sessions available for children born between 01.09.2007 - 31.08.2008. Please contact the office if you are interested in a place.

### Dates for Your Diary.

24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> October Half Term

1<sup>st</sup> November Children's Disco

14<sup>th</sup> November Indian Dance Workshop in school Yr2 & Yr3

24<sup>th</sup> November Christmas Lights Switch on Choir to attend

1<sup>st</sup> December - Christmas Bazaar for Children day time and Parents in the evening with Carols and the Salvation Army Band

2<sup>nd</sup> December Yr5 Trip to The Houses of Parliament

8<sup>th</sup> December KS1 Panto Trip

9<sup>th</sup> December KS2 Panto Trip

19<sup>th</sup> December - 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan Christmas Holiday

31<sup>st</sup> December New Years Eve Party in School Hall

13<sup>TH</sup> SEPT 2012 - THE CIRCUS IS COMING TO SCHOOL!

**Parent Questionnaire.**

This questionnaire is aimed at gaining your opinion regarding how the school should prioritise in the coming years. We are all aware of the reduction in budgets for public services. Schools are no different, we have a limited budget and many needs. Gaining your views as to the direction the school is taking is important to the Governing Body in determining spend.

Questions.	Positive	Negative	Comment
We have phased the start for young children in nursery and Reception. Do you believe this has gone well?			
Currently maintaining our school buildings is a key priority for the school. Costing approximately 10% of budget. Future projects include, replacing nursery classes, tarmac, heating, windows and providing space for group work for children in Key Stage 2. Do you believe we have the correct priorities?			
School trips are becoming increasingly expensive, coach prices in particular are increasing. Should we continue to have one curriculum based trip per year?			
Increasing awareness of Health and Safety gives us the decision whether to use one coach company with three point seat belts. This increases costs by approximately £2 per parent. Should we try to use this coach?			
We have moved to the texting system for mobile phones to alert you of changes in the school. We are redesigning our website at the moment and could dispense with paper copies of the newsletter. A text would alert families that the newsletter is on the website. Do you feel this is a smarter, cost efficient way to work?			
Our research homework builds into powerful projects by Year 6. These support the notion of coursework at secondary, show families what their children are studying and give children independence in their learning. Should families bring these into school on our Open Evening in the Summer Term to display them in the hall?			
We are part of the Local Delivery Group that offers summer schools, Family Support Workers and other out of school activities for children. This service costs in excess of a Learning Support Assistant and we need to judge value for money. Have you used these services, what are your views?			
<b>PLEASE RETURN ON PARENTS EVENINGS</b>			

