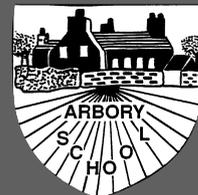


Arbory School Newsletter



16th February 2011 No.4

Dear Parents

As we are nearing the end of what has been quite a long half term, I am sure that the children are all ready for a break. I hope that you will enjoy the half term holiday with your children and that they will return, refreshed and ready for all the new activities planned for them. It is usually a wonderful time of year leading up to Easter as we begin to see the signs of spring finally appearing and the promise of lighter mornings and evenings.

Y6 Information Evening

I would like to remind the parents of Y6 children that there is a chance to meet Mr. Cole and staff from Castle Rushen High School this Thursday at 7pm in the Y6 classroom. Please attend this meeting with your child if you are able as it provides a chance for everyone to meet secondary school staff on our home turf.

Public Speaking

This year we have a record number of children entering the competition. The first round of the school competition takes place this Friday when most of the 24 children who are taking part will deliver their speeches. Y4 and Y6 pupils will be speaking from 8.50am until 10.50am while Y5 children will speak on a range of topics from about 10.50am onwards. This event will be followed by the school heat of the competition on Wednesday 9th March at 6pm in the school hall. Parents of the participants are welcome to attend and should contact the school office. Winners will go through to the island competition which we are hosting on Thursday 24th March.

Dinner Money

Dinner money for next half term will be £55.50.

Yellow Moon

A big thank you goes to Mrs. Snidal and everyone who bought items from Yellow Moon which has raised £38.80 for school funds.

RNLI SoS

Well done to all the pupils and staff who braved the cold weather in order to come into school dressed in beach wear for our 'Surfers or Sailors' day. We have managed to raise £254.65.

Y3 Bird Monitor

Year 3 have been taking part in the 'Big Birdwatch' and Mr. Callow has set up the cameras to monitor the bird boxes and bird table. All that was missing was a monitor screen to show what was happening inside the box. We are very grateful that Mr. Tummon and his colleague, Mr Creighton from 'Confideo' came to our rescue and donated a television to Class 3. Confideo is a computer programming company based in Douglas and their generosity has meant that our Year 3 birdwatchers will now be able to do their own 'Springwatch'.

World Book Day

The school will be celebrating World Book Day on Friday 4th March and children are asked to dress up as a character from a favourite book. There will be prizes for the most creative costumes and all the children will receive a £1 token towards the cost of a book which can be redeemed at local bookshops. We are not asking the children to bring in any money but if you have any non-fiction books that may be suitable for the library, we are organising a 'Donate a Book' scheme. Each book will be entered on the school system and a commemorative label will be placed in the book with the name of the child who donated it.

Swimming

After the half term holiday, it will be the turn of our Y5 and Y6 children to have swimming lessons. Please make sure that your child has the correct kit for the Thursday session at the pool.

Headlice

There have been a few cases of headlice reported in different classes during recent weeks and the half term holiday is a good opportunity to help rid the children of any eggs and lice. Please check your child's hair over the holiday. Further information is available on the DoH website at <http://www.gov.im/dhss/health/primaryhealthcare/Search.gov?search=headlice&dept=7>

Hockey

Pupils in Y3 and Y4 who have attended the hockey training on Mondays will be taking part in the Southern Hockey Festival on 16th March 4pm-6pm at Castle Rushen astropitch.

Red Nose Day

The school council will be organising activities for Red Nose Day and will be contacting you with their plans after the holidays. Comic Relief will be on Friday 18th March.

Southern Netball and Football Festival (Y5 and Y6 pupils)

This will be taking place on Wednesday 23rd March at the Buchan School between 10am and 3pm.

School Ceili

The school will be holding a Ceili for parents and children on Friday 1st April. It will take place in the school hall from 7pm-9pm. Tickets will be available next month from the school office and will be £3 adults and £2 for children.

Lost Property

A navy 'hoody' fleece with a white stripe has been left in Y3. It looks nearly new and is for age 7-8. I am sure that someone will be glad to have it returned to them. Can I also remind parents to check over the holiday that all children's uniform is clearly labelled.

Yours sincerely

J H Ayres

Headteacher