



# Parent Council Newsletter

January 2015

Edition 1

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## CLASS REPS

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**5L—Yvonne Hassan**

Next Meeting is Tuesday 27th April 2015

## PERFORMANCES



- ◇ The ticketing system worked well at Christmas
- ◇ Parents are reminded that videoing the performance on an ipad can spoil the enjoyment of the person sat behind them
- ◇ If bringing babies and toddlers to performances please be mindful of how distracting it can be for the children on stage not to mention those watching
- ◇ Plans for next Christmas are already afoot—watch this space
- ◇ A request for a water stall was made for this year's sports day, this could raise funds for the PTA



## COMMUNICATION

- \* School to ensure that transference of information concerning pupils and their well being is done each year between class teachers
- \* Remember that the website is the first port of call for information, if there's something missing that you want to see, please let the school know
- \* School to look into why emails sent to the admin@etchells.stockport.sch.uk address sometimes go unanswered. A holding email will be set up
- \* Photographs need updating on the website and school are looking at doing this in the near future
- \* Any issues with your child should be directed to the class teacher in the first instance

## Handwriting

**Handwriting**—presentation of work was inconsistent throughout the year groups. The new methods have had an immediate, positive impact

**Guided reading**—this will resume very soon

**Changing reading books**—from Y1 + children can change their own books

**Parent Volunteers**—please speak to your class teacher if you can spare some time to help listen to the children read. A form will be made available on the website that can be handed to the teacher to register your interest

## Fairs

Apologies were received that the entrance fee wasn't communicated prior to the fair.

An improved schedule will be put together for the next fair to ensure people aren't stood waiting for jobs to do

A summer fair was discussed, with the possibility of holding this on a Saturday afternoon, feedback would be appreciated?

To ensure that performances are respected, the school is looking into a new mic/pa system to help introduce events and draw raffles



## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

- ◆ Events or trips are added 'extras' and not a compulsory part of the curriculum
- ◆ School can not ask for financial contributions, therefore, they use the term 'voluntary contribution'
- ◆ Events are never profit making, the cost is calculated based on class numbers. If parents cannot pay the full cost of the event they can approach the school in the strictest confidence for assistance.
- ◆ School cannot subsidise the cost for every child in the class, if the vast majority don't contribute then the event would have to be cancelled.

### CLUBS

External providers are being sought for the summer clubs

School are looking into the possibility of booking clubs online

## Ability Setting



IN KS2 the children are grouped according to ability in Maths. This ensures that every child is challenged/ supported according to their ability

Children aren't put in sets for English as they benefit greatly by working in mixed ability groups and the children act as positive role models for each other

School confirmed that if a child is kept in over break time it's usually to go over misconceptions encountered within the lesson and to complete corrections

## SCHOOL DINNERS



- ◆ Parents have asked if the school can encourage their children not to choose the same option everyday, usually a jacket potato
- ◆ A suggestion was made that parents could discuss the choices the night before and send their child in with a note or with a copy of the actual menu and their selection ticked off
- ◆ The facility to pay online for school dinners is coming soon
- ◆ School are going to request that further detail be added to the menu. For instance, what is Wallace and Gromit Pasta? This will help make informed choices

## HOMEWORK

- ◇ The new system received good feedback from parents
- ◇ Homework won't be marked by the teachers but shared with the class in a show and tell style
- ◇ The active learn homework is enjoyed by the children but school will look at removing the timer to make it a more enjoyable experience
- ◇ Year group spellings will be added to the individual class pages on the website so that parents can do extra spellings with their child if they wish to do so