

Dear Parents,

I trust that you all had an enjoyable half term and were able to make the most of the last of the lighter evenings. Certainly pupils and teachers were ready for a well-deserved break after all the hard work and energy shown in the first half of term.

Capturing the best of the weather, both Year 6 and Year 3 enjoyed their field trips to Pulborough Brooks – Year 6 with a geography focus on rivers and Year 3 investigating weather. On the topic of weather we have received a 'state of the art' weather station which was kindly presented by the Year 6 leavers 2011. This impressive resource will greatly enhance our data collection and analysis and will be an exciting source of knowledge on this topic.

I would like to express my sincere thanks for the contributions brought by the children for the Harvest celebration held on 17<sup>th</sup> October. This year we supported two local charities: the Petersfield Area Churches together food bank and the Portsmouth food bank. It was heartening to note the thought that had gone into many of the gifts – many with personal messages and decorations attached. The donations were gratefully received and will be put to very good use to support those in the area who have so little.

The highlight of the half term was, of course, Arts' Week. This year, as part of our link with the Jamissa Lower School in the Gambia, we focused on African art for the week. From African storytelling, mathematical designs and symbols, pottery tiles, coiled pots, a decoupage giraffe, suncatchers and silk scarf making – the whole school enjoyed a wide variety of activities and experiences. A highlight was the Earthsong Workshop who brought their rhythmic instruments and combined the playing of these with dance and movement. And not to be forgotten, the memorable African lunch – boys and girls separated and no knives and forks to eat with – more food was eaten than usual - it always does taste better with a bit of finger. As I am sure you can appreciate organising such a week is a big undertaking and I am extremely grateful to Philipa Yugin-Power, who brings it all together; the staff who plan the different activities for their classes; the members of the Petersfield Art and Craft Society who share their expertise with us and to the numerous parents who came in to help run the activities - Thank you very much.

The P.A. Quiz Night was, once again, a well-attended and lively night. Steve Shaw and Cindy Herraman-Stowers put together their usual mix of challenge and frustration in their questions and amidst much hilarity and not too much dissent; a good time was had by all. Following on from this the committee are now preparing for the Christmas Fair on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December. The requests for contributions will be coming thick and fast with collection points in the entrance reception area.

Sensory Garden Opening: I do hope that many of you will be able to join us for an informal celebration and opening for the sensory garden on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 3:00pm. The school will be spending the afternoon with animals from the Hydestile Rescue Centre before the opening which will be performed by the author, Michelle Magorian. The pupils are planning their items for the time capsule that will be buried in the garden and Mrs Bint and her musicians will ensure that there is the usual welcome musical element to the occasion.

Congratulations to:

**Apprentice Award winners**

George Renshaw, Anna Blue Renshaw, Sarah Moses, Lara Elston

**Journeyman Award winners**

James Hannington, Louis Elston, Elizabeth Turner

.... and to Alex Burns on receiving a **Golden Award.**

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Tues 1st Nov	Arun & Rother House Music Evening
Thurs 3rd Nov	Police Cyber Safety Talk
Tues 8th Nov	Hamble & Meon House Music Evening
Fri 11th Nov	Opening of Sensory Garden
Mon 14th Nov	Year 3 & 6G Parents Evening
Tues 15th Nov	Concert at St Mary's Church
Thurs 17th Nov	Year R & 6R Parents Evening



## SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations to the U11 football team winners of the St John's indoor football tournament and runners up of the Dunhurst tournament.

Congratulations to the U10 netball team who were runners up at the Dunhurst netball tournament



All fixture results published on website

## Drumming in Arts Week

