



Birkwood Primary School

www.birkwood.org.uk

Newsletter 11: 25th November 2011

Dear Parents and Carers,

Strike Action on Wednesday, 30th November ~ A decision has now been made and school will close next Wednesday. The decision to close the school or send pupils home is never taken lightly, but in this instance, where staff have elected to take lawful industrial action, I have no choice but to take appropriate steps to ensure the health, safety and well being of all pupils. Thank you.

Ballroom ticket orders ~ Please could all ballroom ticket orders be in for Tuesday 29th November, thank you.

Barnsley Sports Awards 2011

We have received confirmation that we have won '*the most improved school who offer PE and Sport opportunities.*' This year's award goes to our school because ... '*The school has shown a tremendous commitment to various activities, most recently in engaging Key Stage 1 and 2 children in ballroom dancing. We run weekly after school clubs and always attend the ballroom events that are held 3 times a year. This is just one example of how we engage and provide PE and sport opportunities for our young people.*' We are delighted! Thank you to Mrs Porter and Mr Fielding, to you for your support especially at the ballroom dancing events and to our wonderful children!



'Birkwood Pudsey Fun Day' ~ today!

With your support, we raised the amazing amount of:

£718.76 + Raffle of the 'Kes' picture £131.00 =

Total of £849.76

Thank you very much indeed and really well done!

'Kes' framed photograph, autographed by David Bradley as Billy Casper was drawn in Celebration Assembly today. I will let you know who the winner was next week.

Special Visitor ~ Mr Michael Dugher, MP for Barnsley, visited school last week and presented prizes to:

- Matty Hugill and Daria Iacobescu in Year 5 who were runners up
- And the overall winner in Year 6 which will appear on the inside of his Christmas card, is Georgia Foster

Congratulations, special certificates from the Houses of Parliament and book tokens were given to the happy winners by Mr Dugher and a crocodile (I don't know who that could have been!)

Grimethorpe Colliery Band, Thursday, 1st December at 7.15pm ~ tickets are now **SOLD OUT!**

It promises to be a wonderful evening. Could ALL children attending the concert wear school uniform ~ white shirts/t-shirts and grey trousers or skirts if possible please as it will be very warm in the hall.

Foundation Stage children ~ we have had a number of children sick in school over the past few weeks. If your child has a tummy bug (sickness or the toilet), can you keep them off school for 24 hours from the last incident so that they don't infect other children please. Thank you for your support.

Christmas Dinner Day, 14th December ~ if you would like your child/ren to receive a Christmas Dinner on this special day, even if they don't normally receive dinners, the cost is £1.70. If your child would like a Christmas dinner please order with their class teacher by **Thurs 1st December**.

Esafety parents' awareness session ~ Mrs Robinson will be leading a session for parents on Monday 28th November at 2.45pm. The aim is to raise awareness of how children are using the internet and what parents can do to make sure they are doing so safely. Please could you let Mrs Ellis know if you are wishing to attend.

The Friends of Birkwood are now beginning preparations for the Christmas Fayre:

- Friday 2nd December will be a non-uniform day, if you choose, we ask that your child bring in 'a bottle' eg wine or soft drink (unopened please)
- Friday 9th December will be a non-uniform day, if you choose, we ask that your child bring in some 'baking or biscuits'
- The class who sell the most raffle tickets will have a special treat of a DVD, popcorn and hotdogs! Thanks to Mr and Mrs White

Dates for your diary:

- **A Christmas Celebration of carols, nativity and singing by Years 1 and 2 ~ 6th December, 2.00pm**
- **Young Voices at Sheffield Arena ~ 7th December**
- **Christmas Fayre ~ 9th December, 2 - 4pm**
- **Year 1 and 2 Christmas Party day ~ 12th December**
- **Foundation Stage Christmas Celebration ~ 13th December (11.00am and 2.30pm)**
- **Year 3 and 4 Christmas Party day ~ 13th December**
- **Foundation Stage Christmas Party day ~ 14th December**
- **Christmas Dinner day ~ 14th December**
- **Christmas Ballroom dancing at Barnsley Metrodome ~ 14th December, 6.30 - 9.30pm**
- **Year 5 and 6 Christmas Party day ~ 15th December**
- **Christmas Soiree of ballroom dancing, carols and singing ~ 15th December, 6 - 7.30pm**

We return to school on Tuesday, 3rd January 2012

You would be most welcome to come to the following Class Assemblies:

Year 2 Class Assembly ~ Thursday 1st December at 2.45pm

Year 1 (Tigers/Miss Betts) Class Assembly ~ Tuesday 29th November at 2.45pm

With many thanks for your continued support,
Mrs Julie Allen,
Headteacher