
Delce Infant School Newsletter

SUMMER TERM, No.1

MAY 2010

Amalgamation up-date Thank you to all the parents, governors, staff and children who attended the public meeting last week and shared their views and comments with Alan Parker, the independent adjudicator. He has taken note of everyone's opinions and will let us know his final decision in 2 or 3 weeks time. I will keep you informed of any decision as soon as I know anything further.

Children's Centre news – The community event, last Wednesday, went off well and everyone who attended seemed impressed with the new centre and the facilities that are going to be available. I am hoping that the Centre will be able to open at the beginning of June and am having regular meetings with the builders and Medway Council. Mrs McAdam has been busy making contacts with the reach schools (Balfour Infants and Warren Wood Primary), the local pre-schools and health professionals who will be able to contribute to the centre's work. I have also recently appointed Mrs Shirley Hudson who will be working with Mrs McAdam as our Community Liaison Officer (CLO) and I am sure that, those of you with children between the ages of 0 and 5 years, will get to know both members of staff well. Mrs Hudson will join Delce Children's Centre from 24th May.

Year 2 independence There are still a number of Y2 children who are unable to come into school independently in the mornings. Please encourage your child to come into school by him or herself. It will certainly make their transition into the Junior School easier if they learn to do this in the Infant School. If you do need to speak to the teacher urgently in the morning please speak to me so that I can direct you to sign in our "early morning visitors' book". Thank you for your cooperation.

Attendance and lateness Although the majority of children attend school regularly and arrive on time, there is a significant number of children who are either regularly late each day or frequently absent from school. Children do miss out when they arrive late or are away from school – both in their learning and in their friendships. If this applies to your child, please make every effort to bring them to school each day and on time. Thank you.

South Africa I have been given a wonderful opportunity to accompany a National College International Leadership group on a visit to Pretoria in South Africa for one week beginning 17th May. I will spend the week visiting pre-school, primary and secondary schools in Pretoria, some of whom will be in affluent areas, others in the townships. I am sure that it will be a valuable experience and I know that I personally will gain a lot from the experience and hopefully be able to share lots of the good practice that goes on at Delce Infants with our South African colleagues. Likewise I know that I will learn a lot from the schools I visit which I can bring back to Delce. In my absence, Miss Atkinson will be in charge and will be supported as always by Mrs Merchant, office manager, and Mrs Collman, Mrs Teague and Mrs Seales, senior teachers. I look forward to returning to school on Monday 24th May.

School events

Fund Raising Group – the next meeting will be held in school on Wednesday 12th May at 9 a.m. Please come along and help us plan another successful Summer Fair and other events this term.

Sports Day We are holding this earlier in the summer term this year in the hope that the weather will be kind to us and have planned Sports Day for **Monday 24th May**. (For the past few years the weather has been sunny in May and very changeable in July when Sports day has usually taken place!) **YR sports activities will take place in the morning (9.30 a.m. start) and Y1 and 2 in the afternoon (1.30 p.m. start)**. Please make sure that your child has PE kit and plimsoles in school each day so that they can all enjoy practicing the games and be able to take part confidently in the Sports Day. If the weather is wet on the Monday, we shall try again on Wednesday 26th May.

School Meals GOOD NEWS!! As part of the government's drive to encourage children to eat healthily, all the children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes will have an opportunity to receive 5 free school meals during the summer terms again this year. **Year 1 (Penguin and Seahorse classes) children's free meals will be offered during the week beginning Monday May 24th, Year 2 classes and the Y1 children in Polar Bear class will be offered free meals during the week of Monday 21st June and Year R's week begins on**

Monday 5th July. You will receive more information about the menus and a form to complete from Scolarest. Please note that your child will be allocated five free school meals unless you return the form saying that your child does not want to take part. Unfortunately, we shall not be able to provide a mix of free school meals and home packed lunches for your child during his or her allocated week.

Take One Picture We are again taking part in the Take One Picture competition arranged by the National Gallery. The picture chosen this year is "Tobias and the Angel" by Andrea del Verrocchio and parents interested in learning more about the national project should visit the National Gallery website for more information. We have taken part in this annual project for the past four years and the work produced last year was truly inspirational. The work involves all areas of the curriculum including Literacy, Maths, Science, Design and Technology, Dance, Art, History, Geography and will take place during term 6. We are planning an exhibition of our work in school on Thursday 8th July to show you all the wonderful work that will have been completed during June and July. More information will be provided later in the term.

Dates for the term *Other dates will be shared with you in the next newsletter*

Thursday 6th May RE workshops around the theme of "Who am I?" and "How am I special" all classes involved.

Tuesday 11th May – 9 a.m., Attendance Assembly Mrs Baker, EWO, giving out 100% attendance certificates

Wednesday 12th May – Fund raising group meeting

Wednesday 12th May – Family Trust leading assembly

Thursday 13th May – first Advisory Board Meeting for the Children's Centre; Whale Class assembly

Friday 14th May – Attendance Clinic; Governors' Learning Walk

Monday 17th May – YR classes visiting St Justus Church; Governing Body Meeting

Thursday 20th May – Octopus Class assembly

Monday 24th May – Sports day; Penguin and Seahorse Classes free meals week

Tuesday 25th May – SATs moderation by Medway Advisers

Friday 28th May – end of term 5

Term 6

Monday 7th June – term 6 begins; beginning of our Arts' and Grounds' Fortnight; Barnardos envelopes returned to school

Wednesday 9th June – Y2 trampolining club starts (letter following)

Friday 11th June – Beans brought to school for measuring; 1.30 p.m. Elaine Scott from Barnardos measuring beans with the children.

Wednesday 17th June – Summer Fair

Monday 21st June – Y2 and Polar Bears' free meals week

Wednesday 23rd June – YR classes trip to Riverside Country Park; Family Trust leading assembly

Thursday 24th June – End of Year assembly, 2 p.m.

Monday 28th June – New YR Parents Meeting, 7 p.m.

Tuesday 29th June – Y1 school trip to Wingham Wildlife Park

Thursday 1st July – Y2 children visit the Junior School, new YR children visit school, and YR and Y1 visit their new classes

Friday 2nd July – **School Closed for pupils** - Staff Training Day

Monday 5th July – YR free meals week

Tuesday 6th July – Parents' meeting for new nursery children

Wednesday 7th July – New YR children visiting

Thursday 8th July – 2.45 p.m. Open Afternoon and exhibition of Take One Picture work

Friday 9th July – Reports given out to parents; YR vision screening

Wednesday 14th July – Y2 (and Y1 in Polar Bear class) school trip to the Science Museum, London

Wednesday 21st July – a.m. Year 2 parents invited to our Leavers' Concert

Friday 23rd July – last day of term, normal closing time

Yours sincerely

A.G.MORRIS
HEADTEACHER