

Operation Christmas Child



For the last few years, the school has been supporting the Operation Christmas Child project which aims to provide Christmas presents for those children in developing countries who would otherwise miss out on a gift. Last year 170 parcels were donated to us to pass on to the organisers and we hoping that a similar figure can be reached this year. Our children have already received leaflets describing what to do if they want to take part but it is essentially about filling a shoe box with new presents for a boy or girl overseas.

Suggested Items Include:

- Toys:** Bear, soft toy, tennis ball, finger puppet, jigsaw, yo-yo, building blocks, small musical instrument. For boys trucks and cars, for girls dolls, clip on earrings etc.
- Educational supplies:** Felt pens, pens, pencils, pencil sharpener, eraser, colouring book, notepad, picture or puzzle book, chalk, pencil case, stickers etc.
- Hygiene items:** Toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, comb, hair clips, bar of soap, flannel etc.
- Other items:** Sweets (sell by date to be at least March 2010), gloves, scarf, sunglasses, cap, hat, bangles, necklaces etc.

Carr Hill is an official collection point and we aim to have all our donated boxes collected on November 6th.

Parents' Questionnaire 2010



Every year, during the Summer term, parents are asked to complete a questionnaire commenting on the performance of the school in a number of key areas. Usually, a paper version of the questionnaire is delivered to all parents as a part of their child's end of term report.

Last term, however, we asked parents to complete the survey online using a link from the school's website. Unfortunately, we received a very poor response with less than 10% of parents completing the survey. As the survey was open to anyone who visited the site, the link was also open to abuse so that a number of visitors who may not have any association with the school were able to make inappropriate and abusive comments.

In light of this, the link was stopped but we are now left with a situation which means parents have not been able to feedback to the school their views. These views are taken seriously and they play an important part in our future development work and so I have suggested we re-introduce the paper version of the questionnaire which will be made available to parents during the Parents' Consultation Evenings in October.

Diary Dates

- October '10**
- 4th Peter Hammond WWII workshop with Y3
 - 4th Paul Morley to lead Assembly
 - 4th Year 1, 2 and 3 to Retford Library
 - 5th Full Governors' Meeting at 6.30 pm
 - 6th Boys' Football v Rytan park (away)
 - 7th Y5 to Southwell Workhouse
 - 8th Y5 to Southwell Workhouse
 - 11th Roman Legionaire to visit Y3
 - 12th Tennis for Y4 at Elizabethan
 - 13th am Y4, 5 and 6 Harvest (9.30) am Y1, 2 and 3 Harvest (11.00)
 - 14th Y6 Visit to see Twelfth Night
 - 14th Boys, Football v St. Augustine's (away)
 - 15th Science Activity Day for Y6 at Elizabethan
 - 17th Car Boot Sale in Car park
 - 18th Pumpkin Week for Y3
 - 19th Parents' and Friends' Open Morning
 - 20th School Nurse in to see Y6
 - 20th Parents' Consultation Evening
 - 21st School Nurse in to see Y6
 - 21st Parents' Consultation Evening
 - 21st Last Day before half-term
 - 22nd **INSET Day - school closed**
 - 25th School Closed for Half-Term
 - 25th Sports for Kids Playscheme
 - 26th Sports for Kids Playscheme

- November '10**
- 1st School Re-opens after Half-Term
 - 1st Poppy Appeal Assembly
 - 2nd African Ark in School
 - 5th Special 'Indian' School Lunch
 - 5th Book Fair in School for one week
 - 9th Time Travelling for Y3
 - 10th Roman Workshop visits Y3
 - 15th Photographers in School
 - 16th Y4 Visit Eden Camp
 - 19th Children in Need Day
 - 19th Y5 Visit Amcott House
 - 24th Y3 Visit Amcott House
 - 25th Y3 Visit Amcott House

- December '10**
- 7th KS1 Concert pm
 - 8th KS1 Christmas Concert 6.00 pm
 - 9th Elizabethan Family Concert at St. Saviour's
 - 14th Foundation stage Concerts am and pm
 - 15th KS2 Evening Concert
 - 16th KS2 Evening Concert
 - 17th KS1 and Y4 Christmas Parties
 - 20th Y3, Y5 and Foundation Christmas Parties
 - 21st Y6 Christmas party
 - 21st Last Day before the Christmas Break
 - 22nd **INSET Day - school closed**
 - 23rd Sports for Kids Playscheme
 - 24th Sports for Kids Playscheme

- January '11**
- 5th Re-open after the Christmas Holidays

SEPTEMBER 2010

Carr Hill newsletter

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'a happy atmosphere with high standards'

Warm Welcome

In all, we have approximately 55 children who have joined Carr Hill this term and I would like to welcome warmly each and everyone of them.

Starting a new school is always an exciting and possibly daunting time so it is great to report on how well the children have settled to their new routines.

We will do all that we can to ensure that all our children will go from strength to strength but it's so pleasing to see our 'newcomers' doing so well.



Inset Days

There are five in-service days this year. These have been confirmed as;

- 22nd October 2010
- 22nd December 2010
- 18th February 2011
- 15th April 2011
- 11th July 2011

King's Park Runners

A total of 17 schools, took part in the recent Cross Country event held in King's Park which gave an opportunity for 130 children to run for their school.

Whilst Cross Country is still a growing sport at Carr Hill, we achieved a result which equalled last year's by being placed 5th in the Boys' Race and 7th in the Girls'.

Callum Amendola (8th) and Ellie-Mae Lane (22nd) were our highest placed individuals in their respective races with Callum only 10 seconds behind the overall third place. However, in Cross Country, it is the overall team's placing which really matters and the Boys' finished with 84 points and the Girls' with 147. Pictured are our runners; Callum Amendola, Josh Paul, Liam Bennett, George Bowskill, Georgia Romeo, Beth Smith and Elissa Wilkinson. Very well done to you all!





Great Start to Season

September brings the start of the new football season and the Boys' team has made a very promising start.

They produced a confident performance by beating Gateford Park in the 1st Round of the Parry Cup by six goals to nil. We now face a tough draw away to the Worksop school, Prospect Hill in the 2nd Round.

The team also overcame Ordsall Primary in their opening League fixture. Carr Hill beat our local rivals by four goals to two with goals from Jay Smith, Liam Bennett, Declan Sipson-Heath and Josh Paul.

This perfect start is very pleasing and we're already talking about emulating the successes of the teams from the last two years. The girls' team starts their programme next month and I will keep you posted of our progress over the coming months.

The Deep

On Monday 13th September, 61 very excited Key Stage One children set off by bus to 'The Deep' in Hull.

The children arrived eager to find out what weird and wonderful creatures they would see on their trip. They were then taken on a journey of discovery from the birth of the oceans into the future and from tropical lagoons to the icy waters of Antarctica. The children (and adults too!) were amazed at the wonderful colours, sizes and characteristics of creatures such as the Spotted Garden Eels, Clownfish, Tiger Sharks and even the Blue Poison Arrow frogs to name but a few!

The children were able to walk the ocean floor in one of the world's deepest viewing tunnels and get up close to view the creatures in their habitat. The 'ice

chamber' and 'twilight zone' provided opportunities to learn about the different habitats in which the sea creatures live.

The children also attended a workshop which enabled them to further their understanding of animal habitats both in and near water. The guides even commented on how impressed they were by the children's knowledge.

A great day was had by all and, albeit a little tired, the children were buzzing with ideas for their topic work where they will be inventing their own sea creatures based on their experience.

Watch this space!



Parking Problems

Our school buses have had some difficulty recently in parking in the School Bus bay due to parents parking there.

The police have advised the school that whilst they cannot prosecute drivers simply for parking on the road legally, they will take action against drivers who are causing an obstruction.

The traffic congestion around the school

gates, before and after school, is a perennial problem but I am grateful to parents for their help in parking responsibly away from the school gates and the bus parking space.

In addition, I'd like to remind parents that they are not allowed to drive into the school car park to pick up their children before and after school.

I am passing on this latest information in the hope that all our parents will park considerably.

Thank you for your continued support.



Grub Up!



The hard work of Mr. Grayson and Mrs Grafham's Gardening Club has borne fruit. Literally!

A range of vegetables including tomatoes, carrots, potatoes, marrows, onions and pumpkins have been harvested and passed on to the school kitchen so that they can be used as part of our school lunches. Our school meals really couldn't be fresher than that!

We've already extended the vegetable garden area by including another greenhouse and further areas of planting so that even more children can get involved but the Morrison's Let's grow campaign provides us with valuable items which improve our provision even further.



The Morrison's Let's Grow voucher scheme is now in full swing and will continue until the end of October. Last year we amassed 28,000 (!) vouchers which allowed us to order lots of wonderful equipment and seeds for our very own Gardening Club.

This year, Mr. Grayson's target is 30,000 vouchers which would mean we're able to create our very own fruit orchard to the rear of the school.

As we go to press, we already have 11,000 vouchers so please bring any vouchers you or your friends may have into school and help us 'Grow Our Own.'



Our Very Own Bank

Old clothes, pairs of shoes (tied together please), handbags, sheets, blankets and soft toys can be brought to school in a plastic bag and posted into our very own clothing bank.

Working in conjunction with the Police Aid Convoys means we can provide items for those in developing nations who otherwise would not have appropriate clothes to wear. Your donations even bring a small income to the school too!

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Carr Hill would like to thank

DANWOOD

for their help in producing this newsletter



The Key!

This piece of writing was produced by Emily in Year 5. The children had to write a description of a special key.

“As soon as I picked it up I knew it was special. It was huge—big enough to open a church! The key filled my two hands that I was cradling it in, the leather strap wrapped around my middle three fingers.

It was as cold as ice and as heavy as a thick book so the rubies encrusted in the head dug into my hands. There was a sapphire at the end of the shaft and an emerald in the middle of some golden threads in a cobweb shape that were as thin and delicate as spiders' silk.

The key was made of silver, gold and gemstones. It was stunning and although slightly dull, it seemed to have a magical, golden glow shimmering around it. There was a made up code carved into the gold in the shaft and the teeth were jagged like icebergs. The whole key was glinting in the afternoon sun.”

