

Irish Day Success

As part of European Languages Day celebrated in school last month, Foundation Stage children studied some elements of Irish culture. Here are a few pictures of their day.



Luciana Y5 performed some Irish Dancing for the children and then children joined in!



Mrs Johnston told us about Ireland



We made Irish potato cakes and they were delicious!



Parents' Questionnaire 2011

The annual questionnaire, delivered to all parents as a part of their child's end of term report, asks for parents to grade the school according to 18 different criteria from their perspective as a parent of a child in school.

Last term, 94 questionnaires were returned completed and the data they contained was collated and conclusions drawn. A copy of the results is included with this newsletter. All the information has already been shared with all staff and discussed at the Full Meeting of Governors.

“ We have listened very carefully to the main messages from the data including the issues around homework, after-school clubs, keeping parents well informed and listening to children's ideas. ”

All the written responses have been collated and form an additional page. This page is available to all by telephoning the School Office, by taking a copy from the School Office, Main Entrance area or by placing a note in your child's organiser.

We are keen to make everything as transparent as possible without wasting valuable resources so please feel free to ask for copies if you wish to read the individual comments parents have made.

I'd like to thank everyone who returned a questionnaire; they do help form our school improvement plan so that we can continue to try to make Carr Hill reflect what parents and children want from their local school.

INSET DAYS

There are four in-service days this year. These have been confirmed as:
21st October 2011
10th February 2012
30th March 2011
9th July 2012
 School will be closed to children on these days

Diary Dates

October '11

- 4th Full Governors' Meeting 6.30pm
- 11th Boys' Football v Redlands (Home)
- 12th 9.30 am KS2 Harvest Assembly
- 13th 9.30 am KS1 Harvest Assembly
- 13th Girls' Football v Serlby Park
- 14th Literacy Volunteers Training in school
- 14th Boys' Football v St. Augustine's (away)
- 17th Open Morning - all welcome
- 18th Diwali Themed School Lunch
- 18th Parents' Evening
- 20th Parents' Evening
- 20th Boys' Football v Ryton Park (away)
- 20th Last Day before half-term
- 21st **INSET Day - school closed**
- 24th Sport for Kids Like Us Play-scheme
- 25th Sport for Kids Like Us Play-scheme
- 31st School re-opens after half-term
- 31st Anne Hickman to lead Assembly

November '11

- 1st Y5 / Y6 to Bradford Photographic Museum
- 2nd Y3 / Y4 to Eden Camp
- 3rd Travelling Book Fair in school for one week
- 5th Book Fair in School for one week
- 7th Photographers in school
- 8th Time Travelling for Y3
- 11th Y5 to Remembrance Service
- 14th Anti-Bullying Week - 'Words Can Hurt'
- 15th A WWII Evacuee in to work with Y3/Y4
- 18th Children in Need day
- 22nd PTA Ladies' Night
- 25th Y5 Y6 Tag Rugby at EHS
- 29th EHS Family Dance Festival

December '11

- 7th Foundation Concert pm —The Bossy King
- 8th Foundation Concert pm —The Bossy King
- 12th Alyn Haskey to lead Assembly
- 13th KS 1 Concert pm
- 14th KS 1 Concert—evening
- 15th KS2 Carol Service
- 16th KS1 Christmas Party
- 19th Foundation and Y3/Y4 Christmas Parties
- 20th Y5/Y6 Christmas Parties
- 20th Last day before Christmas Holidays

January '11

- 4th Re-open after the Christmas Holidays

Carr Hill would like to thank

DANWOOD for their help in producing this newsletter



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Carr Hill newsletter

' 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.



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 140 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 information 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 - all our donated boxes collected on November 6th .

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 St. Augustine's in the 1st Round of the Parry Cup by six goals to two. We now face a tough draw at home to Anston Junior, a large school in Rotherham, in the 2nd Round.

The team also overcame St. John's in their opening League fixture. Carr Hill beat our old rivals by three goals to nil with goals from an own goal, Declan Sipson-Heath and Ben Mills.

The girls' team starts their programme next month and I will keep you posted of both teams' progress over the coming months.

KS1 Go Camping

To kick off our topic 'Wish You Were Here', the children in Key Stage One spent the day camping on the school field.

It was a blustery day but we managed to pitch Mrs Alford's big tent and Mrs Horner's small tent. We were also lucky enough to have Miss Robinson's VW camper van and Mr Grayson's vintage caravan to show the children how holidays were in the past.

The children enjoyed singing round the campfire, making jam sandwiches, playing rounders and producing woodland art.

As well as providing an enjoyable time, the day has inspired the children's writing and given them realistic opportunities for writing labels, lists, captions and instructions as well as postcards and stories.



World's Biggest Coffee Morning

Joining in the World's Biggest Coffee Morning organised in aid of the Macmillan Charity meant that £285 pounds was raised by 9.30am recently.

PTA Parent volunteers helped serve and clear up during the morning and it was lovely to see some new faces in the 'team' of helpers. Dawn, our School Cook, was a superstar baking lots of cookies for us but a number of parents and friends donated home-baked items to provide even more items for sale. Staff joined in the fun and together with pupils and visitors, spent their hard earned cash on cakes, coffee, cookies, scones, squash etc. Leftovers were then sold off at break time bringing our total raised on the day to a marvellous £320.

Parents and carers told us how much they enjoyed the meeting up with friends in the dining hall and many people commented upon the friendly atmosphere and how nice it would be to hold a coffee morning for school funds maybe once a year as well as the Macmillan one. Food for thought.

Miss King would like to say a big thanks to everyone who brought in money, lent a helping hand or baked scrumptious food for us to share!



World War 2 Visitor

This month, Years 3 and 4 were able to travel back in time and experience what life was like in World War II for a child when Peter Hammond visited Carr Hill.

The children learned what it was like in an air raid shelter, and about the importance of always having their gas masks with them. They took part in games and sang songs to avoid hearing the aeroplanes overhead.

A valuable part of the day was when the children were able to examine artefacts from the era, and learn what items a family during the 1940s would have had.

Class 3MB agreed that it was one of the best visits they had ever had because of the fun 'hands-on' activities they took part in.

The children went on to write and present a newspaper article describing the day, and these are displayed in school.



Retford in Bloom Winners

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 so our school meals really couldn't be any fresher.

To provide the garden area with extra protection, a fence has been erected which means the area has been separated from the playing field. Councillors Mike Quigley and Adele Mumby kindly donated money to pay for the fence and are pictured (left) visiting the allotment area to make the formal presentation. The moment was also captured by the local press.

This year, the children's Garden Club entered the Retford in Bloom competition and I'm pleased to say took first prize in their category.



A representative group of gardeners visited the Town Hall and were presented with a certificate, a children's gardening book and £25 to spend on seeds for the new year.

King's Park Runners

Bassetlaw Sports Development Service organised the Year 5/6 District Cross Country Competition on Tuesday 20th September 2011 in Kings Park. 11 Schools, totalling 106 children competed in the event which saw each child run a distance of just over 1000 metres around the park.

Gateford Park and Ranby House were the overall winners of the event but it is pleasing to report that Declan Sipson-Heath (11th) and Maddison Metcalfe(23rd) were our highest placed individuals in their respective races. In Cross Country, of course, it is the overall team's placing which really matters and the Boys' finished with 163 points and the Girls' with 140.

Crystal Lane, Team GB Paralympic Cyclist who recently won a bronze medal at the World Championships in Denmark, presented the awards to the children that participated in the event. Crystal also gave a speech to the young children encouraging them to participate in sport and wished them all the best of luck.

Pictured are our runners; Declan Sipson-Heath, AJ Romeo, Laurence Narancic, Alex Wonham, Tyler Darby, Isobel Lamb, Natalie Hurdiss, Holly Kelsey and Maddison Metcalfe.

Very well done to you all!

