

MILL RYTHE INFANT SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Friends

Yesterday after assembly I reminded the children that their Reading Challenge cards should be back in school by tomorrow, Wednesday, so that I can see how well they have done. We intend to have a celebration on Friday afternoon.

Our **Macmillan Coffee Morning** will be held on Friday morning from 9.00 - 10.00am. We hope that you will bring along family and friends to support this event and while you are with us you are welcome to visit your child in their new classroom where there will be activities for you to share. Our coffee morning is dedicated to the memory of Mrs Margaret Bowen, Deputy Headteacher at Mill Rythe Infant School, who died in service 3 years ago. Most families have lost a loved one to this cruel disease and we feel sure that you will want to help us support this very worthwhile charity. Refreshments will be served in the Hall but please don't take your child with you - they are for the adults only. More formal interviews when you will have an opportunity to talk with teachers about how your child has settled into the new term will take place after half-term.

Rotary Club Shoebox Appeal

We have been approached by the Rotary Club regarding their annual Christmas Shoebox Scheme for the benefit of disadvantaged children in Tanzania, Montenegro and Romania. We have supported this scheme in the past which entails making up a festive shoebox containing small toys, toiletries and educational items for a child of a specified age. Parents in the past have reported what a worthwhile activity this has been to complete with their child. If you would like to take part in this, please pick up a leaflet from reception. This gives full information, eg. permissible contents etc. The shoeboxes will need to be in school *the week after half-term*.

Harvest Festival at St Mary's Parish Church

Children in Years 1 and 2 have already had an invitation to sing the Harvest Song at St Mary's this coming Sunday, 5 October. If your child wishes to take part then please make sure that they return their signed permission slip and return it to school by Thursday 2 October at the latest. Mrs Lazell and I will be accompanying the children to church. We meet in the Church Hall car park by 10.15am and walk across together.

Building Schools for the Future

With this letter you will be bringing home a consultation booklet detailing Hampshire County Council's plans for secondary education in the Havant/Horndean/Hayling Island area. You will see that there is no proposal to close The Hayling College or reduce numbers there, but I

have been asked by Mr Bullough the Headteacher, to remind you that The Hayling College is part of the Havant Federation of Schools. This means that pupils access courses from off the island, and could be affected by the closure or reduction of provision at any of the federated schools.

We are fortunate to have three new faces working on Hayling Island. They are:

Emma Crooks - appointed as Family Liaison Worker

Kim McCann - Manager of the Children's Centre (based at Mengham Junior School)

Lisa Strutt - Extended Services Partnership Manager

Very soon I will be inviting them to meet with you all so that you can put faces to names and get to know the important part they will be playing in supporting each of the five Hayling schools.

Year 2 Children - Application to Junior School

Forms were sent out to some of our Year 2 children yesterday, the rest will follow when we receive another supply from the Admissions Team at Winchester. If you have not yet received yours, do not worry, we will forward it as soon as possible. Forms must be returned to us by **midday on Friday 21 November 2008**. Alternatively you may apply online, at www.hants.gov.uk/admissions.

Dinner Money

PLEASE could children bring their dinner money in a named envelope - more and more children are just handing coins in and it is not easy for our teachers and teaching assistants to deal with this. Money can always be brought to the office at the beginning of the day if you do not have an envelope. Thank you.

Harvest Festival Lunch - Tuesday 7 October

Just a reminder in case you have not yet ordered this special lunch, to please get your orders in by this Thursday, **2 October** at the latest. *If you have not ordered this lunch by the deadline, please ensure your child brings a packed lunch on this day.*

Wet Playtimes - Please could children bring in a colouring book to keep in their drawer for use during wet playtimes. Many thanks.

Kidzone Childcare

For booking form and activity details for the October half term holiday club or Friday 24 October inset day please contact Gill Wrixon 07976 611713.

Pat Duckworth

Juliette Duckworth and her family have asked us to let you know that they would like donations made in Pat's memory to either the British Heart Foundation or to the children's schools, Mill Rythe Infant School or Mill Rythe Junior School.