

DALE HOUSE SCHOOL

Telephone 01924 422 215

ISSUE 2 - SPRING NEWSLETTER 2009

Issue 2

Spring 2009

Happy New Year - 2009!

Dear Parents

Welcome back to school. A special welcome to new children and their families who have joined the school this term. We hope that the children will settle well and look forward to working together in the future. I hope you all had a restful and peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

February half-term will be here on 16th and Nursery Rhyme and Poetry week will be 23rd-27th February, Poetry Day being 27th February. The children from all classes will do well with their Nursery Rhymes and Poetry pieces and the standard again will be very high. The Prep and Transition pupils need costumes. Please choose a Nursery Rhyme which they can 'say' and a costume to go with it, eg. 'Mary, Mary Quite Contrary' or 'The Grand Old Duke of York'. They will perform it in costume on 27th February, and a good time will be had by all. Pupils in other classes will have a poem to learn at school and recite out loud. They will be judged on the Friday as well. Please ask your child's form teacher for details and see yellow diaries.

Staff News

Mrs Mallinson (Senior Nursery Nurse) who has been at Dale House for 4 years, leaves on 23rd January for her Maternity Leave. We thank her for all her hard work and dedication over the years in the Prep and Nursery classes. We also say a big 'Thank you' for her running of our After School Activities and Holiday Clubs. She will be missed!! We wish her every happiness with her new baby, which is due in February. Miss Thwaites (Nursery Nurse Level 3), will now be in charge of the Nursery Class and After School provision. Miss Mallice (Nursery Nurse Level 3) will be assisting her, as will Mrs Dole and Miss Wood.

In April our caretaker, Mr Cousins, will be retiring after 7 years. He has been a wonderful caretaker, always having the School open on time and ready with a smile. He is also an excellent decorator and repair man. He will be sadly missed by all the staff and children. We wish him a quiet and healthy retirement.

Friends of Dale House

The Parents' Association have supported school for 11 years, helping to fund-raise for our pupils. We would like to thank Maria Martin, who has been Chairperson for 5 years, for all her hard work. Our new joint Chairpersons are Mrs Simcoates and Mrs Mitchell.

School Christmas Quiz 2008

Thank you to all parents who paid £2 for the School's first quiz sheet event. Parents said the quiz was a lot of fun to do over the Christmas holidays and it raised £150.

After School Activity Clubs

School Activity Clubs change after February half-term. A new Clubs form will be sent home within the next week, please make new Club choices and return it to school a.s.a.p. Clubs are allocated on a first come first served basis. Will parents please collect their children from the back yard at 4.20pm when all clubs finish, including homework club.

Early Room

Any child in school before 8.25am must be taken into the Early Club for supervision.

Please do not leave your child in a classroom.

Late Room Use : 3.30-5.30pm

Mrs Fletcher and Late room staff have been concerned by the late pick-up of some children after 5.30pm. Obviously we are sympathetic in emergency situations but no pupil should be in school at 5.30pm in term time as the school is closed. Please can parents ensure they pick their child up before this time. A £20 fine will be charged to parents after 5.30pm to cover running and staffing costs. Parents who are persistently late will not be able to use the Late Club in the future.

Will parents also note that the Holiday Club closes at **5pm daily**.

Parking

Please could all parents remember that they should not use the driveway entrance to the school on Ruby Street for dropping off or

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picking up pupils at the beginning and end of the school day. (If someone else does the school run on your behalf, please ask them for their co-operation). Please consider the residents of Ruby Street, Amber Street and Pearl Street and do not park in front of drives, gates, etc. Also young children should not walk out of the backyard or up and down Ruby Street outside the school gates, without parent/adult supervision. When staff hand over your child at 3.20pm, they are under Parental Supervision, and the school will not take any responsibility for accidents that occur whilst parents/carers are in charge of their children.

School Photographs – 5th May

Advance notice that 'TEMPEST' will again be coming in to school on Tuesday 5th May to take individual and group family portraits. Please **send a note** if you have more than one child in the school and would like a family photo taken. Tempest will not take pictures of children who do not attend the school.

Reports

Reports are being collated at the moment. They will go out on Wednesday 11th February. Can parents please return the report with a written comment and signature before half-term, Friday 13th February. It will then be photocopied and returned to you to keep.

Notice of Parents' Evenings

Lower School : Prep, Transition, LP1 and LP2 on 19th May 4-6.30pm. Upper School : UP3/4 and UP5/6 on 20th May 3.30-6.30pm.

Homework Years 2-6

This term extra homework in the week and midweek revision will be set for all Year 2 pupils. Junior School pupils will also be getting extra work in order to prepare them for the school tests and exams. School exam weeks are 11th-22nd May.

Bad Weather

The weather is very unpredictable at this time. We are hoping the worst is over. Staff will do their best to keep the school open at all times. If it is snowing, will parents please collect their children by 3.30pm and not leave children in the Late Room. If Late Room is to be closed, parents will be informed the day before if possible. If the weather is very poor, will parents use your discretion as to whether you set out to bring your children to school or not. Mrs Fletcher will have an announcement put

out on Radio Leeds if the school is to be shut. The bottom of Ruby Street is very dangerous in bad weather because of the slope. Parents are advised to leave along Amber Street or Pearl Street.

Parental Skills

As part of this term's curriculum, the Prep class have invited some people to come into school to tell the pupils about their working day (nurse, office worker, solicitor, shop assistant, Health Visitor, etc.) We are asking any parent if they would like to come into school to talk to the children about their job. If you are able to, please send a letter to the office and we will then arrange a mutually convenient time for the visit. Thank you in anticipation.

Easter Church Service – Tuesday 7th April Service 1

Church open 12.45pm for tea and coffee
1pm - Service for Prep, Transition and LP1 & LP2

End of Service 1.30pm

Lower School closes. Please take your child home after the service. Those with older siblings please enjoy a tea/coffee before the next service begins.

Service 2

Tea and coffee 1.45pm

2pm - Service for Forms 3/4 and 5/6

End of Service 2.30pm

Upper School closes after this Service. Please take your child home.

Nursery children must be picked up from school by 2.30pm.

School is closed at 2.30pm so please note there will be **no Late Club** running on that day.

No activity clubs last week of term, they all finish on 27th March 2009 at 4.20pm

S.M.G.Fletcher
Headmistress

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VALENTINE'S DAY ACTIVITIES **9TH - 13TH FEBRUARY**

'Name the Valentine Bear' £1 for school Library funds.
Forms will be available from 26th January in the Hall and outside Prep classes – to be drawn on 13th February. Please help the fund by choosing a name!

FODH Easter Raffle 2009

Back by popular demand, we are once again going to repeat the popular and very successful Easter Chocolate Hamper Raffle of 2008. Donations for the hampers can be sent to school from **Monday 9th March** onwards. Raffle tickets issued soon. Raffle drawn on Friday 3rd April.
YOU MUST BE IN IT TO WIN IT!!!!

WORLD BOOK DAY **5th March 2009**

Lower School (P/T/1/2) : Bring your favourite book.
Junior School : A visiting artist who works as an illustrator for children's books will be here for the day.

The exciting Mother's Day shop is back!

MOTHER'S DAY SHOP **Friday 20th March**

A wrapped present (value £3) can be brought to school for Wednesday 11th March. Shop will be open on Friday 20th March so pupils' can buy a present (£2 needed please on or before the day) for that very special person!

All pupils can enter the

Easter Art Competition

Friday 3rd April

£1 to enter

All entries must be in school by 9am on this day please

1. Design and make an Easter cake, or
2. Design and make an Easter garden (use a large biscuit tin), or
3. Design and make a 3D model of something to do with Easter, (Spring flowers, Spring animals, the Easter Story, etc.) or
4. Draw or paint an Easter/Spring picture

It is a tradition at Dale House School that on special occasions, such as Halloween, Valentine's Day, Easter, Christmas, birthdays, etc., that the parents of children in each class bring in treats to share and add some fun to the day. Last year we had Easter chicks and bunnies as well as other treats. Easter Eggs – all shapes and sizes – can be sent in for the pupils' Easter Activities. Please bring them to the Front Office (if they are for the whole school) or give them to form teachers (if they are for the class) before Monday 30th March.

THANK YOU

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MUSIC, DANCE & GUITAR LESSONS

Any boy or girl in a class wishing to start piano, guitar, ballet, tap or all four, please see their child's form teacher for guidance about ages and details, so the lessons can be arranged for after the Easter break if appropriate

MUSIC AND DANCE

Can parents of children who will be taking exams later this year please make sure they practise!!!

EXAM SUCCESS!!!

We are delighted to tell you that Eleanor Kinsey gained a Merit Pass for her piano exam.

CONGRATULATIONS ELEANOR!!!

Pupil places for 2009/10

Nursery (age 2), Prep class (age 3) and Juniors (age 7) are open. Any parent, relative or friend seeking a place for September 2009 or September 2010, are advised to register. Pupils are interviewed on a first come first served basis, and require references from their previous school or Nursery before they are accepted into the school.

SUMMER UNIFORM

(Buy before March to avoid disappointment)

**RAWCLIFFE'S uniform sale in Hall
13th February 3.15pm onwards**

All pupils are to be in summer uniform after the Easter break please, on 28th April. For parents taking their children on holiday at Easter, please be aware no tattoos, hair-braids, makeup, nail polish, jewellery, open-toed shoes, are allowed in school on their child's return. Thank you.

The following items are not allowed in school :-

Chewing gum, sharp objects or toys, glass objects, mobile phones, game boys, etc.

WANTED!!

Good quality second-hand uniform for our uniform sale on Friday 6th February in the Hall at 3.15pm

ACTIVITY CLUBS

The Activity Clubs change over on Monday 23rd February and will continue until Friday 27th March. They restart on Tuesday 5th May until Thursday 18th June. Booking forms will be sent out within the next week.

Please remember no Clubs run on Parents' Evenings or School trip days.

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Absences from School

1. If your child is absent from school, will parents please inform the office by telephone on the morning of the first day.
2. When your child returns to school, please send a note to explain the absence for our records.
3. If your child is ill, particularly if they have sickness or diahorrea – in fairness to the staff and other children – please do not send them to school!.
Thank you.

IMPORTANT CLUB'S NOTICE

Please note there will be no Drama Club on 6th March 2009

All parents, grandparents and friends invited (children have to be over 16 years) are invited to the

FRIENDS OF DALE HOUSE **EASTER BALL 2010**

CEDAR COURT HOTEL – Saturday 27th March 2010
(Please make a note of this date in your diaries)

FRIENDS OF DALE HOUSE FUND-RAISING

Our next event will be Bags2School Day on Thursday 29th January. Please bring your clothes in for 9am. Thank you.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 6 th February	Second-hand uniform for sale in Hall 3.15-4.00pm
Friday 13 th February	'Name the Valentine Bear' £1 – winner announced
Wednesday 25 th February	Rawcliffe's uniform sale in Hall 3.15pm
Friday 27 th February	Ash Wednesday, Lent begins
Tuesday 3 rd March	Nursery Rhyme & Poetry Day (Costumes required by Nursery and Prep classes only)
Thursday 5 th March	Lower School bring your favourite book.
Monday 9 th March	FODH PTA Meeting 6.30pm. All welcome.
Monday 9 th March	World Book Day
Wednesday 11 th March	Easter Art Competition begins
Tuesday 17 th March	Easter Hamper raffle begins (chocolate donations will be gratefully received please!)
Friday 20 th March	Mother's Day wrapped gifts needed in school (value £3 please)
Monday 23 rd March	ZOOLAB visiting school
Friday 27 th March	Mother's Day Shop (please bring £3 to buy a Present)
Monday 30 th March	Easter egg donations please. Thank you.
Friday 3 rd April	Activity Clubs finish
Monday 6 th April	Scholastic Book Fair in school Hall all week
Tuesday 7 th April	Easter Art Competition judged
Monday 27 th April	Easter Egg Hunt
Tuesday 28 th April	End of Term Services – school closes 2.30pm (No Late Room)
Tuesday 5 th May	INSET Day for the staff only
	Whole School opens for Summer Term (Summer Uniform please)
	TEMPEST Photographers in school