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**March
2009**

Welcome back to what we hope will be a milder half term with plenty of sunshine and flowers blooming! Thank you for your patience and understanding as we tried to make the best decisions over a very stressful period of time with snow and ice appearing when they weren't expected and not appearing when they were expected.

World Book Day

Friday 27th February

Our theme for World Book day this year is ADVENTURE STORIES. Children can come dressed up as a character from an adventure story. There will be a prize for the most interesting character.

We have chose this theme to match another event happening on the same day:-

Our sports coach Steve Kiernan is embarking on a trek in the Himalayas in March to raise money for the charity Plan UK. His target is to raise £3000 for the charity which helps children, their families and communities in deprived areas of the world. We would like to support Steve and have a fundraising day to help him reach his target. We have set a date on Friday the 27th February for the children to collect as many 20p coins before hand to fill up a large picture of a mountain! He has sent a letter out to explain this in more detail - but for now, start collecting your 20p's.

Look on www.justgiving.com/stevekiernan to find out more.

Kingswood

Year 6 had a fantastic time away at Kingswood, even though it was freezing cold for them outside, but warm and cosy inside. Their behaviour and attitude to getting involved was praised by the instructors who always love having our school visit the centre. The children have some wonderful stories of how they faced their fears with courage and support from their friends. We are as ever very proud of them all.

Grateful thanks go to Miss Payne, Mrs White and Steve Kiernan for giving up their own time to be take the children to Kingswood.

Year 5 will soon be getting their first letter for their turn in 2010. There will be a meeting for parents and children at 6.30 on Wednesday 18th March after Parents' Evening with a member of staff from the Kingswood Centre.

Assemblies

Year 5 assembly is on 13th March at 9.05 - all welcome.

Tecso Vouchers...

are back. Do please send them into school.

PTA

The next event is the spring disco on 13th March at 6.00 - 7.30. We will be having an Easter Bonnet Parade and Easter egg competition on Friday 3rd April at the end of our Easter Celebration. Egg templates will be sent home soon. Look out for details of a family Beetle Drive coming soon too.

Parking

We would again ask all drivers to park safely and with consideration for the safety of our children and the convenience of local residents.

Parents' Evenings

The lists for the 10 minute appointment slots will be put up in the entrance hall on Tuesday 3rd March. Please phone school if you are unable to call in to sign up yourself. You can choose Wednesday 18th March from 3.30 - 6.00 or Thursday 19th March from 6.00 - 8.00. We do ask, wherever possible, that you try to only use one appointment per child.

Change of Status update

Following the very successful consultation the governors did with you as parents and various members of the local community, they decided to carry on pursuing the plan to change our status as a school from a community school to a Voluntary Aided Church of England school. They still face a very lengthy process as they now go to district and county council meetings. There are now several local authority officers involved who are helping to guide us through an incredibly complex procedure which can be rejected at various points along the way. One requirement will be yet another official consultation which will come to you as parents. The consultation we have already had was for the governors to decide if it was the general wish of the school community to pursue the change of status. We think the earliest the change can happen is 1st January 2010.

Comic relief

Do come to school on 13th March wearing something red, even if it's just a stripe on your sock! Please bring in one pound to donate to Comic Relief.

Dates for your diary		
February		
27th	All day	World Book Day - adventure stories Steve's charity Day
March		
13th	All day	Comic relief - wear red
	9.00	Y5 Assembly
	6.00 - 7.30	Disco - wear red nose!
18th	3.30 - 6.00	Parents' evening
19th	6.00 - 8.00	Parents' evening
26th	All day	Life Education van
27th	6.00	Beetle Drive
April		
3rd	1.30	Easter Celebration
		Break up (children can leave early)
20th	9.00	Back to school
May		
May 11 th - 15 th	SATs week	
19th	10.00	Coffee Morning for new parents
22nd	3.15	Break up for half term
June		
1 st	All day	Teacher Training Day
8th	9.00	Class/team photos
16th	1.30 - 3.00	Reception Induction afternoon
18th	1.30 - 3.00	Reception Induction afternoon
23rd	All day	Year 6 induction day
30th	1.30 - 3.00	Reception Induction afternoon
July		
2nd	1.30 - 3.00	Reception Induction afternoon
9th	11.00	Sports' Day and lunch
13th	6.00	Meet the Teacher BBQ
15 th	3.30	Staff v Year 6 rounders match
17th	9.00	Year 6 leavers assembly
	3.15	Break up