



# NEWSLETTER

[www.greenfieldpulloxhillschools.org.uk](http://www.greenfieldpulloxhillschools.org.uk)

Issue No 5 Date: October 2009



## Autumn Term

We cannot believe that it is almost half term! It has been a very busy start to the new curriculum year. We would like to welcome all new pupils and trust that your time at Greenfield will be a pleasant experience.

## Values

We have already talked about two different values since our return to school. The values of understanding and friendship have both been discussed. Both these values are extremely important and the children realise how we have to understand one another and to take responsibility for our actions. After half term we will be looking at the values, "respect" and "sharing". Please talk to your child about our values at home and help them to live them.

## Eco - Friendly School

So far this curriculum year we have enjoyed 2 eco-friendly days in school. At the beginning of September all classes took part in a variety of different activities.

**Robins Class:** Planted their outside pots with pansies, worked with seeds, saplings and trees. They also did some work on apples which included tasting and printing!

**Wrens Class:** Thought up, drew and wrote about Eco Aliens. They also made bird feeders using seeds and fir cones.

**Owls Class:** Following on from their study of snails, they looked at mini-beast habitats and how they can be affected or destroyed by humans.

**Hérons Class:** Continued their work on bicycles looking at the environmental advantages to cycling rather than using the car. They produced leaflets and posters encouraging people to use bikes.

**Eagles Class:** Who were also entertaining our German visitors, were very fortunate to have 2 visitors - Erika from the Greensand Trust and David Sedgely. They talked about hibernation using a powerpoint presentation. All the children made a bug hotel - a safe place for mini-beasts to hibernate! They also examined owl pellets and identified the bones they found.



Our second eco-friendly day was to save power. We did not use the electricity at all between the hours of 8.30am and 3.30pm. No school dinners were cooked, instead the children brought in a packed lunch or took the picnic lunch from the kitchen. No hot water for the teachers' coffee! (However a flask or two was spotted!) Naturally the computers were all turned off including the office PC! The children found the whole experience an eye-opener! A meter reading was taken at the beginning of the day and again at the end of the day. We recorded the energy used on No-Power Day (fridges, freezers, telephone/security system) and compared this with the day before. We reduced the daily amount of electricity used by 89 kilowatts.

The solar panels generated sufficient power to cover the 7kwh used - even though it was a very cloudy day. We also used no gas on this day. We were pleased to see that 71 children walked or scooted their way to school, an increase of 29 children compared with the day before. Well Done! Please remember we are still collecting used ink cartridges and old mobile phones. If you have any used postage stamps you can cut them out with 1cm border and send them into school.

### **Fun Run**

We had our annual fun run last Friday and all the children participated. The GSA served refreshments and the children were given a piece of fruit after the run. Thank you to all those people who sponsored the children and we would ask for all monies and sponsor forms to be returned to school a.s.a.p. Thank you.

### **Information Evening**

Thank you to those parents who attended the information evening in September. From the feedback we understand that you found it both useful and informative.

### **German Visitors**

We enjoyed a wonderful visit from some children from Germany recently. The Eagles entertained them one evening by playing pitch and putt, where a good time was had by all. The children enjoyed working and playing together and were pleased to see how much they had in common.



Eagles' children have made new friends and written letters to them, using an online translator. We hope that they

will continue to keep in contact with each other.

### **Harvest Festival**

Thank you to everyone who donated harvest gifts for our recent harvest festival. The Eagles were accompanied around the village to deliver parcels and we have received many letters of thanks from the recipients.



### **Operation Christmas Child.**

Shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child should be back on school by 6<sup>th</sup> November please. We hope the children enjoy filling a shoe box for this very worthy cause.

### **Barnados Bean Challenge**

We recently held a bean challenge in aid of Barnardos. The children were given 2 beans each to plant to see which child's bean grew to the tallest height and which the smallest. The children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in this competition.

The winner of the tallest bean was Abby Dodd at 104 cm and Tilly Hannan won the smallest bean at 1cm! There was also a lucky bear draw. All the envelopes which contained donated money for Barnardos were put into a sack and one was drawn out. The lucky winner - Jack Bishop was given a Barnados Teddy Bear!

The event was a great success as we managed to raise £704.88 for this worthy cause.

### **Half Term Break**

Enjoy your week off at half term and please remember that the children do not return to school until Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.