

Newsletter Easter 2015

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another busy, action packed term, and as always I am pleased to enclose the department newsletter, with my own.

The term has many highlights, as you will see, however on Friday we end the term with the presentation of our new Lord Taverners minibus. You will remember that you have contributed to this, we fundraised our school contribution of £21,000 over the last few years. Thank you for this support. The new bus will be based at the Abbeyfield satellite and be used for sporting and curriculum events.



The Grange satellite in Daventry has continued to grow and we have purchased a used minibus for this site, so they can go out and about in the local community, as well as coming down to the main site on a weekly basis.



You will see that we have the final design for the new secondary playground on the Mainsite. The school council and all the pupils had the opportunity to choose what they would like and I for one think the design is wonderful. The Governors have allocated a significant sum from the budget to develop this area and we are expecting it to be built during June. This means that we will not be able to use the playground for a month, but hopefully with good weather the field will be in use and there should not be too many issues. If all goes according to plan, we will have a playground party to celebrate the opening in July!



We had great fun on “Red Nose Day” on Friday, 13th March. A total of £167.70 was raised. The money was split between Comic Relief and The Salvation Army, for work within the local Community.

Next term sees the end of schooling for a number of our older pupils - they will be moving onto colleges; day care providers or work. This year is the biggest group leaving, as the Local Authority have reduced the age range of all special schools to 18. There are a number of leavers events planned, more information will follow separately.



We will also be welcoming new pupils on transition programmes into the school, to get them used to changing schools. We will be admitting approximately 30 pupils to the school in September.

Sadly, we will be saying good bye to Mrs Sally Feihn, who works with the 14 - 19 year old ASD students, Sally has been at Billing Brook for 7 years and is moving to a school much closer to home, she will be missed by everyone. Replacing her will be Di Acaster who will be joining us in May to work with the ASD group. We also welcome back our current trainee teachers Miss Smith and Miss Locke who have finished their placements in mainstream successfully, we welcome our new trainee teacher Miss Knight and have welcomed back Mrs Cui, who has returned from maternity leave. As always a busy school.



Thank You!

Finally, a really big thank you to all my staff, who have worked so hard this term. Many of them caught the dreadful stomach and flu bug, and have felt very poorly. Despite this there have been many wonderful activities for the children and I appreciate the hard work. I would particularly like to mention Miss Parker and Mr Wheeler who, in the absence of Ms Lantsbery have been managing the 3 - 13 department, supported by all the team. Thank You

Just a reminder about keeping safe. We do a lot of work at school on keeping safe "on line", but of course with the light evenings and better weather, many children will be playing outside. It maybe a good time for the general reminders about playing safely; not going out of sight of the family home or a trusted known adult and making sure they have your phone numbers on them if they are in the local community - I always remind children about crossing roads safely and not talking with strangers at the final assembly of the year.

Diary Dates for next term

Summer Term 1

April	13 th 2015	Staff Training Day
April	21 st 2015	Parent Drop-in
April	28 th 2015	Time to Talk 10am – 11am
May	1 st 2015	Bank Holiday
May	11 th 2015	} Grendon Residential Year 9
May	13 th 2015	
May	19 th 2015	Parent Drop-in
May	22 nd 2015	School Closes at 3pm for School Holiday
May	27 th 2015	Playscheme

Finally, I hope you all have a lovely Easter break (my favourite time of year). School opens to children on TUESDAY 14th April.

C M Grant
Headteacher.

