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NEWSLETTER NO. 11

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Dear Parents,

Dates for your Diary

Monday 19 th May	Walk to school week until Friday 23 rd May
Thursday 22 nd May	4+ Unit visit to Whipsnade Zoo
Thursday 22 nd May	Bedfordshire String Group performance to school
Week beginning 2 nd June	Sports Day
Wednesday 4 th June	Magic and Motivational Day
Friday 6 th June	4.30 p.m. SEAL and Magic Show
Friday 13 th June	Key Stage 1 & 2 trip to Ashridge – Classes will be informed of actual day
Tues 17 th – Mon 23 rd June	Book Fair
Tuesday 24 th June	Key Stage 1 & 2 trip to Ashridge – Classes will be informed of actual day
Friday 27 th June	Key Stage 1 & 2 trip to Ashridge – Classes will be informed of actual day
Wednesday 25 th June	Image Theatre performance of “Jungle Book” to whole school
Wednesday 25 th June	2-3pm 4+ New Intake Induction afternoon for September 2008 intake
Wednesday 2 nd July	Middle School Transfer Day for year 4 pupils
Thursday 3 rd July	9.30-11 and 2-3pm – 2009 Prospective Parents/Children Open Day visit to school
Wednesday 9 th July	7pm Key Stage 2 concert
Thursday 10 th July	2pm and 7pm Key Stage 2 concert

School Term Dates:

Monday 26 th May	Half term week begins
Monday 30 th June	School Closure Day – Staff Training Day
Friday 18 th July	Break up for the summer holidays
Tuesday 2 nd September	Return to school for Autumn Term

International Walk to School Week

Next week is walk to school week, and you should have received our green newsletter with details. Don't forget the themed mufti day on Friday, the day we break up for half term. Do try to do your best to walk at least part of the way if you usually have a lift to school. We are operating a walking bus on three of the days so you can park and walk.

Sports Day

We have not had much luck with sports day for the last two years with the weather either being too hot or wet and thundery. This year we have set the week beginning 2nd June aside and we will look at the forecast nearer the time. We will keep you informed.

School visits: Please note that anyone who is ordering a “Free Packed Lunch” MUST provide their child with a drink, as the Catering Company are no longer supplying this. Thank you.

Magic and Motivational Day 4th June 2008

This day will start with a special assembly at 9.10 a.m. when our junior magicians will perform their tricks for the school and their parents. All children who attended our successful Magic Club will also be awarded with a certificate and a special disc. Eugene Matthias, who is the president of the Magic Club of Great Britain, and who has run the Club and shared his secrets and expertise with Club members, will also be attending along with Derek Redmond, Britain's most famous 400 metre runner. Please try to attend – let us know how many chairs you require so we can accommodate you.

Following this assembly the day continues with what promises to be a most exciting and unique day for Watling Lower School and nine invited schools, including Hillcrest and Weatherfield Special Schools. This hopefully will give us a diverse blend of pupils. We are holding a special Magic and Motivational Day at school. This will involve a special magic show based on the 5 Keys of Success, involving audience participation followed by a motivational input from Derek Redmond with opportunities to ask questions.

After lunch we will have some fun sports on the school field, followed by the award to every child taking part of a specially designed certificate. We anticipate that the local press and radio will be involved and that a number of adults from various local organisations will be in attendance. This will be a unique occasion with ten local schools taking part, with ten pupils each. We will choose the Watling contingent fairly with a boy and girl from each year group.

Derek Redmond can charge up to £10,000 for adult audiences, and Eugene Matthias can also command a high fee for his services. We have been offered the whole day for £1,000, £500 of which has already been donated to the event. Each school will fund the shortfall to the tune of £50. This represents excellent value and an experience that will live on for all participating.

The real aim of the day is friendship and fun for all and, as the sports are co-operative not competitive, 'Every Child Matters – Every Child's a Winner'.

Open Day for 2009

Please tell anyone who is interested in a place for their child in September 2009 that our Open Day will be on 3rd July 2008. The 4+ unit will be open to visitors from 9.30 – 11.00 am and 2.00 – 3.00 pm. If you are unable to join us on this occasion, you are welcome to telephone the school to arrange an alternative time to visit the school. Applications for 2009 need to be received by the school during the first two weeks in September 2008.

Neighbours

Unfortunately we have to close this newsletter with a serious complaint. Children have been running across the drives and gardens of the townhouses next to our school and their parents have stood by watching. Parents have even been seen wheeling buggies onto the gardens to manoeuvre around crowds. One of our neighbours knocked at her window and the parent gesticulated at her. She is so distraught that she has taken the time to call into the school to inform us. The school staff are most embarrassed that this has happened.

Ian Black
Headteacher

If you require this newsletter in alternative formats or larger print, please contact the office.