



www.bottonvillageschool.co.uk
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21.9.09

WELCOME TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

Dear Parents and Friends!

In this year we will celebrate Michaelmas at 8.45 in the morning on Tuesday, 29th September in the hall with songs, music, speech and eurythmy, traditionally with the students and teachers of the Eurythmy School. We ask that the orchestra members would wear white shirts and dark trousers. We warmly invite you to celebrate the festival with us!

Gabriella

Autumn Princess

As I sit in my bedroom
I can hear the sounds of autumn
And smell it too!
The flowers that had just bloomed
Have started to wither,
The leaves on the trees too
All because of the colder weather,
A whirring sound makes me jump
Breaking me out of my reverie,
Mum has started her sewing again,
To stitch up my clothes I used to wear,
The birds' song has decreased
And instead the only noise
I can hear is the silence.
Silence is sooo loud it makes
You hear things
You may have never heard before
The beating of a bird's wing
The blackberries are ripe,
All round and tasty
Just waiting to be put in a pie or pastry.
As I walk through the forest,
The leaves are like a carpet,
The protective feel of the trees
Makes me feel royal,
Like an autumn princess.

Alya Davis

Fundraising and Reforming a Fundraising Group

Every year our goal is to fundraise at least £10,000 – in order to pay off the loan of the new school building. In the last PTFA meeting we heard that ideally we have to raise £15,000 a year. Unfortunately we didn't really manage to meet our target last year, so we really need to focus and do more fundraising.

There are several annual fundraising events which happen each year – see list below – but we ideally need more ideas, suggestions, brainwaves to boost our funds!

We are trying to form a group to tackle those issues, to collect new ideas, organise events, keep people informed about the progress etc.

Please think about joining!

First meeting: Wednesday 30 September,
10.30am, in New Botton Farm

Here is the list for the existing events and the dates for you to put in your diaries:

30 October-1 November 09 Catering (more possibly throughout the year)

19-23 November 09 Letter inserting (only some families will be involved, there are more sessions throughout the year)

6 December 09 Advent Fair

4 July 2010 Open Day

Valeska

Parent/School Coordinators Group

The group acts principally as a means of communication between school and parents.

It keeps an overview of many organisational matters. In practice it has worked mainly in recent years on welcoming new families, fundraising, blitz cleans/work days and PTFA meetings. The group aims to include class representatives as well as other parent members. It aims to have some teacher representation and to arrange some joint meetings with the teachers. The main meeting is once per half term. Some new members would be welcome. Please let me know if you might be interested in join.

Michael

Coordinators meeting

Present; Birgit, Valeska, Michael, Diane.

1. ADVENT FAIR

Sunday 6th December 2009.

Advent Group are Valeska Davis and Carolyn Jarvis - we desperately need more parents to come forward to be part of the team to help organise the annual Advent Fair.

This year the Advent Fair will NOT be joined with Botton Village. Stalls from outside are welcome - any parents with a business who would like a stall at the fair please contact Valeska (01287 661211) or Carolyn (01751 433248). A limited number of places is available and a donation of 10% of turnover would be appreciated.

2. BLITZ CLEAN

A new arrangement regarding parental practical contribution to this important activity has been suggested in the hope of overcoming some of the reasons for past low attendance. ALL parents are now welcome to attend each of the FIVE WORKDAYS throughout the school year. These will be held on the last Friday of each term and will involve an end of term picnic followed by an afternoon of tasks to make our children's school beautiful for their return.

3. LETTER INSERTING

Although the 'machine operators' system seems to be working effectively there seems to be no strong organisation of rota and the follow up administrative tasks at the moment and we have actually lost a valuable contract because of this (Letter inserting brings the school a considerable amount of income and if we continue with this poor turnout then we will lose this revenue altogether). WANTED - an 'apprentice' to work alongside Stacey in organising the letter inserting rota with a view to taking this important role on when Stacey leaves at the end of this school year. Please contact Stacey Darrell (01751 472327)

It as also been suggested that a rota for the whole year ahead

be published in the Courier.

The system whereby if a person cannot attend a certain time on the rota - they can swap directly with another parent rather than contacting either Stacey or the named person for that shift, was said to work well.

4. WEBSITE

WANTED - We need a new website administrator to help keep our schools website up to date with upcoming events, photos, news articles and the latest Courier. These items can be submitted by parents and teachers - the website administrators job is just to upload them please. A reminder of the password and username for access to the parents 'protected' page is 'MOZART' and 'Parents'. We were without a website for so long then Lee kindly set one up - it is a great website but really needs regular updating if it is to be an effective tool for both publicising the school to the outside world and for facilitating communication among existing parents. Contact Michael on (01287 661206)

5. FUNDRAISING GROUP

It is not feasible for the coordinators to be responsible for the fundraising as there are too many other tasks competing for priority in the meetings. WANTED - enthusiastic, energetic ideas people to develop fundraising projects and more importantly - see them through! Please contact Valeska (01287 661211) for details of the next Fundraising Group meeting.

6. NEW PARENTS' COFFEE MORNING

9am Friday 18th Sept. at New Botton Farm.

All new parents are being contacted by coordinators to invite them to an opportunity to meet parents and ask questions as well as be introduced to some ideas of ways they can practically support their child's new school. For any unsure of the whereabouts of New Botton Farm, Diane will meet them at school and walk up with them. All new parents have been given handbooks. A new handbook will shortly be available.

7. COORDINATOR GROUP and CLASS REPRESENTATIVES.

Advent Fair 6 December 2009

Our school Advent Fair this year will be on Sunday 6 December. Please keep that day free in your diaries; we will need all hands on board. It is a beautiful event for the public and the school community with a lovely pre-Christmas atmosphere.

We will have a café, waffles, activities for children like candle dipping, gnome garden making, star fishing etc...the School Hall will be full of stalls, the school craft stall, home produce, tombola, raffle and stallholders from outside the

school community, offering beautiful goods. We are still looking for stallholders who would like to offer items which fit with the school ethos. If you know of anyone please let Carolyn Jarvis, Birgit Nef or Valeska Davis know.

We are a rather small group to organise all these activities...we would be grateful for more people to join us. We will have to meet several times before the actual event happens to put our heads together.

Valeska for the Advent Group

WANTED - Parent - School Coordinators.

Unfortunately the numbers have again dropped. Recently it was decided that class representatives should also attend coordinators meetings to ensure accurately feedback to and from each class. Teachers of classes that have no class rep at present should bring this to their next parents meeting so hopefully each class will then have a representative at the coordinators meetings. The times for coordinators meetings can be slightly flexible so if you would like to become a class rep. but feel you can't attend the coordinators meetings please enquire anyway. For a description of the roles of class rep. and coordinator please contact Diane (01751 417294). Finally, it is possible to be a coordinator and not be a class rep. Contact Diane if you just want to come along to a coordinators meeting to see what it's all about before deciding.

Welcome, new families!

Welcome to:

Diana and Mihai Alecu and daughter, Bianca
(Class 4/5)
Old Botton Farm
01287 661212

Paul Clark and Victoria Stevens, son, Jude (Class 1) and daughter, Eve (Kindergarten)
5 Lilac Terrace
Ainthorpe
01287 669201

Judith Cunnison and daughters, Ella (Class 4/5) and Shona (Kindergarten)
2 The Square
Low Mill
01751 432442

Thursday Morning Eurythmy Classes for Parents and Friends:

Begin your day with Eurythmy every Thursday morning at the Village College!

The next class will be at 8.45 on Thursday 1st October in the school Hall

We would welcome new members and now would be a good time to join as we begin a new term.

Why not join and experience the enlivening effect of eurythmy on your daily life? You are welcome to come and see if it suits you without any commitment.

Margaret Griffiths

CALENDAR

Michaelmas Assembly:

Eurythmy class for adults: Thursdays 8.45 School Hall.

Coordinators' Meeting:

Eskdale Trust Council: Tuesdays at 20.00:
6 October, 3 November, 1 December,
9 March, 4 May, 22 June

Anthroposophical Group: Fridays at 20.00: Sept 25th, Oct 9th, Nov 20th, Dec 11th, Jan 15th, Feb 12th, Mar 12th, Apr 23rd, May 21st, June 18th
see Mary for details.

Parents' Evening Class 7/8: Tuesday,
13 October at 7.30 p.m.

Parents' Evening Kindergarten: Tuesday,
20 October at 8 p.m.

Letter Inserting:

Friday, Saturday, Monday, 11, 12, 14 September;
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Monday, 19, 20, 21,
23 November

**Please, please, please drive at
less than 20 mph through
Church Farm**

Calendar for 2009/2010

Autumn Term 2009

Wed 9 Sep to Fri 18 Dec

holiday 26 – 30 Oct

Spring Term 2010

Mon 11 Jan to Fri 26 March

holiday 15 – 19 Feb

Summer Term 2010

Mon 19 April to Fri 16 July

holiday 31 May – 4 June

May Day 4 May

Advertisement

Keep your children warm this Autumn at www.shopmuladula.com: Non-slip washable woollen slippers sizes 22-34 (infant 7 - junior 1), Silk/Wool clothing 0-8 years, Organic Cotton baby wear, bandana bibs, organic silk baby wear 3-12 months, amber necklaces, Natural Materials, ethically produced. Free P&P.

Next Copy date: 01.10.2009

Please send handwritten articles to Marie-Reine Adams or to the school, and you can also email articles from the website or from the address at the top of the Courier.

Lee and Marie-Reine

Important - Contact List Permission

Each year we produce a contact list of parents' and teachers' addresses and telephone numbers with also contains details of the children in classes. It is circulated to parents and to Village households and available in the password-protected section of the school website and it has been an extremely useful resource; we have planned to add the email addresses of those who wished to make them available. This year's contact list is ready for distribution but a question has been raised about how it relates to the Data Protection Act and I have now been advised to include people only if they give their permission. If you are a school parent, please therefore return this slip to me as soon as possible.

Michael

NAME

EMAIL ADDRESS

I give permission for Botton Village School to include my name, address and telephone number and the name and birth date of my child/children in the school contact list, which is circulated to parents, teachers and Village households and made available in the password-protected section of the school website. My email address **can also be included / *should not be included* in the contact list.

SIGNED

DATE