



## Coalway Community Infant School

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Head Teacher: Mrs. F. Hamilton B.Ed (Hons)

### NEWSLETTER APRIL/MAY 2016

**Welcome back...**  
**We hope that everyone had an enjoyable Easter break**

#### Staff Retirement

After many happy years at Coalway, Mrs Jordan has decided to retire as Administrator at the end of July. She will still continue in her position as Clerk to Governors so parents may still see her in school from September. Mrs Jordan has been at Coalway for just over 24 years and will be very sadly missed by us all - children, staff and parents. She would now like to have more time to enjoy her various interests out of school, time which we think she has thoroughly deserved! Until then, she is really looking forward to enjoying her time with us and the children.



#### Class Topics

Topic planners are attached, giving details of the work that your child will be doing in their class over the next term. If required, spare copies will be available in the entrance foyer.

Topics are:

Classes 1 & 2 'Q Pootle 5 – To Earth and Beyond'

Classes 3 & 4 'Up, Up and Away'

Classes 5 & 6 'Ready! Steady! Go!'

Thank you to those parents who have further supported our curriculum work by sending in artefacts or related information during the course of the term – this is greatly appreciated and welcomed by the staff and children.



#### Swimming

Swimming lessons for Year 2 children start on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April**. School Fund is subsidising this valuable activity again this year.

#### Coalway Environment Day and Spring Clean!

On **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April**, as part of an 'environment day' in school, the staff and children will be working in the school grounds. The children may come in to school in old comfortable clothes if they wish and wearing wellies or strong footwear may also be advisable as we may get muddy!

#### Admission to Infant & Junior School

Parents should have been notified on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April regarding school placements for September 2016 – both for Reception and Junior School places. We shall be holding a meeting later this term for parents of children due to start school in September 2016, with the Junior School holding a new intake meeting for parents in term 6 - details of both to follow.



#### Attendance

We are extremely proud of **46** of our children who achieved 100% attendance for terms 3 and 4 – all received special certificates during our certificate assembly on Friday for such a fantastic achievement. Furthermore, another **55** children achieved attendance of 95% or better – well done!

The school continues to monitor the children's attendance carefully. To ensure that parents are aware of their child's attendance to date parents will find attached a print out of their child's attendance, following on from the one we distributed in January. We would ask that you read this carefully and take notice of improvements or downward trends to January's printout. We would hope that those children with noticeably lower attendance will be able to improve their percentage total during the remaining two terms of this academic year.

Your child's **percentage attendance** is identified on the printout and the percentage of **authorised** and **unauthorised absences** noted. Also listed is the **number of sessions** your child has attended – remember that there are two sessions per day, a morning and an afternoon session. If applicable, the number of **late** registration marks your child has had this year should also be easily identified.

It is important that all children arrive promptly every day and we would remind some parents that the teachers welcome the children into their classrooms from 8.50 a.m. ready for a 9.00 a.m. start. Classroom doors/outside area entrance gates are locked at 9.00 a.m. prompt. Any parent who is later than the 9.00 a.m. start should use the main entrance door and register their lateness with a reason at the School Office. Your attendance printout identifies the number of late registration marks your child has had this year.

The school monitors regularity of lateness and absence carefully, with referrals made for persistent absenteeism or lateness, the Government figure for persistent absence being 85%.

## Website

Please log on to [www.coalway-inf.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.coalway-inf.gloucs.sch.uk) to view our new school website. Parents will find all sorts of useful information on this site and this is where all newsletters/general letters will be posted should anyone mislay theirs. We intend adding a little more information over the Summer terms so please do let us know if there is anything else that you would find helpful to be included on the site.

## Term Dates for next academic year

Term dates for this and next academic year are available on the school's website [www.coalway-inf.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.coalway-inf.gloucs.sch.uk) All term dates are in conjunction with the Junior School and Coalway Early Years.

## Holiday Absence Regulations

As from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2013, Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence for holiday during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Parents will find full guidelines in our policy on the school's website, or alternatively may ask for a copy at the School Office.

## Head Lice

Information on Head Lice is published in the newsletter at the beginning of every other term in line with the advice issued by the Gloucestershire Health Protection Unit. **It is each parents' responsibility to check hair at least once a week and to treat if necessary.** Please find below Local Authority information which we advise parents to read carefully.

The advice, briefly, is as follows:-

- An attempt should be made to remove the head lice by repeated combing of wet hair using a plastic head louse detector comb. Combs are available from pharmacies. Plastic head louse detector combs must be used.
- If this fails to clean the headlice infestations, parents should contact the Health Centre (0300 4218850) for a recommended lotion or further advice can be obtained from the school nurse on the same number.

It is most important that .....

- you check your child(ren)'s hair on a regular basis and follow this advice
- long, loose hair should be tied back to reduce the risk.



## Wake and Shake

A reminder that this popular club runs every Wednesday morning between 8.30 a.m. – 8.50 a.m. All welcome.

## Scholastic Book Club

Please find this month's leaflet attached. We would ask that all orders are returned to the School Office by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May.

## Safety



Reminder... parents should park outside the school site to deliver and collect children. To ensure the safety of everyone on site the entrance gates are locked for a period of time at the beginning and end of the school day to ensure authorised access only. Anyone who feels that they have a genuine reason for driving on to site at these times should seek further advice from the School Office.

Thank you

Thank you

Thank you

Thank you to the children, all parents and families who supported our many events and activities last term to boost school funds or charity collections... and a special thank you to the staff and 'Friends of Coalway Infant School' committee for their hard work in organising and running some of these events.



We all ran or walked a mile for Sport Relief and raised an incredible **£814!** Your donations are very much appreciated and a particular thank you to those who raised additional money through sponsorship.

**£100** was raised through our **Mothers' Day** raffle



**£316** was raised through the **Easter disco**



We were also particularly proud of our Reception children for producing such fantastic concerts for their parents and families. Well done children!



## Summer Fayre

Our main fundraising event during the Summer term is the Annual Summer Fayre held in conjunction with the Junior School and Coalway Early Years. The Summer Fayre will take place after school on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June so please keep this date free in your diaries!

Please do bear us in mind if Spring cleaning at all. **Donations** of toys, books, white elephant or items for the children's tombola stall in particular would be greatly appreciated – we will be holding a Donation Day on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May when items may be sent in to the schools. Similarly, if planting seeds or splitting plants in the garden please do keep any that we could sell on the Plants stall at the Fayre. If anyone is available to help on the day this would be greatly appreciated - please see Mrs. Hamilton as soon as possible.

Before the end of this term, every family across the site will be receiving **raffle tickets** to purchase or sell to friends and family which we hope you will be able to support us with to get our fundraising well underway. Thank you.

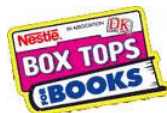
## Voucher Collections

Thank you for supporting our various voucher collections in school - Currently we are collecting:

- Sainsbury's 'Active Kids' vouchers (to 3<sup>rd</sup> May)
- Nestle 'Box Tops for Books' (ongoing collection)

Please place any vouchers in our collection point in the school entrance foyer. Thank you.

And finally... Parents will find the latest edition of **Coalway Kids' News** attached, compiled by Year 2 children from 'Coalway News' Club.



## **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

### **April**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>  
Friday 29<sup>th</sup>

Return to School  
Swimming starts for Year 2 children  
Coalway Environment Day & Spring Clean

### **May**

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup>

**May Day Bank Holiday**  
Summer Fayre Donation Day  
End of term

<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June Holiday</b>
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### **June**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup>

Return to school