

# Ridgmont Lower School

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## PARENT NEWSLETTER NUMBER 1 Spring term 5<sup>th</sup> January 2010

A very Happy New Year to you all. I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and a positive start to the New Year.

### **Staffing:**

As you will remember Mrs Stringer was due to join the staff full time after the Christmas holiday, unfortunately due to a death in her family and a change in personal circumstances she is no longer available. All the staff wish her well and hope that she is finding comfort with her family. I am, however delighted to welcome Mrs Daggett to the staff at Ridgmont Lower School as she takes up her post as the new class 2 teacher.

Mrs Spearing has now returned to class 1 full time.

Mrs Abbey will continue to organise her Nurture Groups this term and we are hoping to extend this facility to two afternoons per week so that we can offer it to more children.

### **Children:**

We warmly welcome two new children and their families to the school; Ella and Seth will be joining class 1. Sam Pattinson has now become fulltime and Taylor, who has returned to the school in class 3.

### **ParentMail:**

We hope that you are all finding Parent Mail as convenient as we had hoped it would be. Please ensure that you keep the office informed about changes in mobile numbers and e-mail addresses. It sounds as though it may be tested because of the predicted snow. You will receive a **text message** if the school is closed on the primary number you filled in on you form (i.e. the first number on the list ) School closures will also be announced on the local radio stations.

### **Lost Property:**

We have quite a large volume of lost property in the bin at the moment, particularly hats and gloves. Please come and check through if you have items missing. On this note another plea to name children's clothing as this makes it possible to return things to their owners.

### **Clubs:**

Please encourage your children to join a lunchtime club this term we have:

Football (new form and cost will be given out later this week)

Recorders - free, Chess and draughts -free.

### **Curriculum Information Evening:**

As you may be aware the school organises curriculum information evenings for parents so that you can find out more about how your children are taught and how you can support their learning at home. Parents' find these sessions very useful and I would encourage you to attend. This term we have invited Chris Crispus-Jones, who is a county advisor for mathematics to come and talk to you about methods of calculation and helping children with numeracy at home. We are sharing this evening with Husborne Crawley Lower School as we want to ensure the guest speaker has a good sized audience. The session will be held at Husborne Crawley on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January starting at 7pm. This gives you adequate notice in order to plan / share childcare.

### **Christmas DVD:**

Mrs Dimery was asked to order some more DVD's of the Christmas production. She will be ordering them on Friday morning so please make sure outstanding payments are made to the office by then.

PTO

**New Diary Dates for your information:**

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> January     | School sports partnership Gymnastics - Class 3 this half term. |
| Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> January   | Swimming class 3 (every week)                                  |
| Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> January    | New football sessions start.                                   |
| Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan (TBC) | Year 4 residential trip meeting at Swallowfield 7pm            |
| Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> January  | Parent curriculum information evening. Maths                   |
| Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> February | Parent consultation morning 9am – 11:30                        |
|                                    | Parent consultation evening 4pm – 7pm                          |
| Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February   | Finish school for half term                                    |
| Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February   | Return to school   |