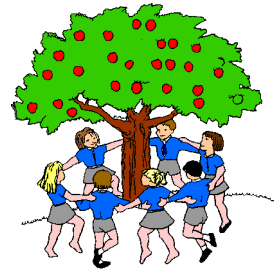


SPEEN CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL  
Celebrating 150 years: 15 October 1862 – 15 October 2012

# Parents Newsletter

Headteacher: Mrs. Denise Nayna February 2014



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## Grand opening of new classroom extension: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 9:00am

We are privileged to have invited Sir Stuart Hampson, The High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire, to open our new area. Rev. James Tomkins will perform the blessing. We hope that parents will join us so please let Mrs Moore know for catering purposes.

## UNILOC



Our successful squad played in the Year Two Tournament at Princes Risborough School against other teams from the liaison group. They were unbeaten throughout the competition and are very proud to receive their gold medals for coming first.

## Cross country festival

The rain finally abated for this annual event on Speen Playing Fields, although it was still 'heavy' going. Speen School did not win the tournament but all our runners put a great deal of effort to produce creditable performances. Thank you to the PTA for their delicious and most welcome refreshments.

**Recorder Concert** Thank you to Mrs Laughton for her work with Y2. The recorder concert was delightful and we look forward to hearing the children play their violins soon..



## School gate

The safety of all who visit the school site is of great importance to the school governors. Recently the pedestrian gate was left open at the end of the day and a toddler ran out into the drive. I think the sign on the gate is clear so could parents please ensure that it closes after them?

## Student teachers

Again we will welcome 2 students from Oxford Brookes University, Miss Gray and Mrs Hawkes from February 10<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> March. They will be working with Year One and Year Two.

## Speen Board of Governors

This term in addition to ensuring that the financial year is completed on budget the governors have many other issues to deal with.

Premises: KS1 extension, completion of insulating the roof, replacement guttering, drains and planning for the introduction of free hot lunches from September. Other governors are doing their regular survey of pupil's/parent's views in addition to drafting a new Home-School agreement as required by the DFE.

The governors are grateful to parents for their support in the planned refurbishments of the kitchen, the library and the pond. A number of parents and grandparents have worked tirelessly through the cold and rain to re-site the pond and although sadly a tree needed to be felled, the area is awaiting the magic touch of the gardening club which starts next Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

## Mrs Hayman's Foundation Stage

group have a Post Office in their classroom this term. As you can see they have visited the village shop for ideas.

## Healthy schools

Speen has been designated a 'healthy school' which encourages Personal, Social and Health Education, healthy eating, physical activity and emotional health and well-being. The travel plan is an essential part of being a healthy school and we are fortunate to have trained parent volunteers to deliver Footsteps Road safety training, scooter training and encourage walking



to school and safer parent parking. Anne Dow is the School's travel Plan coordinator and thanks to her we have been awarded a creditation. Below Anne has written in more detail. Thank you Anne.

***"We are one of twenty schools in Bucks to have received Modeshift STARS status. This is a national accreditation scheme for rewarding sustainable school travel plans. There will be more travel activities coming up throughout the rest of the year e.g. Walk to School week, park & walk, scooter training, road safety training, Be Bright Be Seen campaign etc. We realise that the recent weather isn't very inspiring for walking to school but your efforts are hugely appreciated. It is a great way to reinforce our Healthy Schools policy for the children."***

**Healthy Eating.** When we began working on becoming a healthy school, the first step was to encourage healthy lunchboxes and a crisp-free Friday was introduced. The children learned which foods were healthy and why. Then the school council met and decided lunch boxes should be 'healthy' everyday, not just on Fridays. As an afterthought they passed the resolution that if they had been good, they could have a treat on Fridays. But what was a treat? This question has recently been asked again. Firstly, it is definitely not sweets or chocolate or anything which could be described as confectionary as that is never allowed. A treat was a cake, chocolate biscuit or small pack of crisps. Just to be more precise, at their meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> February this year, the School Council produced their definitive list which has been posted on the noticeboard by the gate. The children believe that items on that list are unhealthy for every day except as a treat on Fridays. <http://www.childrensfoodtrust.org.uk/parents/does-it-matter>

**School meals.** There has been no progress in the plan to introduce free hot school lunches and so the refurbishment of the kitchen is still on hold.

### Physical Activity

Mrs Hayman is about to introduce Wake and Shake activities in the playground, but don't worry, it is not early in the morning but will happen just before afternoon lessons.

### Head Lice

There have been a number of reported cases so please check your children regularly. You are advised not to use chemical treatments unless you see a LIVE louse. The use of lashings of conditioner and a fine toothed comb on a regular basis to check for live infection is recommended.

Many thanks to the PTA who have bought Mrs Hayman an electronic photo frame which she is loading with pictures of her class. She will let parents know when it is up and running.

**See below the exciting activities planned for this term**

March 4<sup>th</sup> **Shrove Tuesday- pancake puddings  
Parents Evening** for YR/1/2

March 5<sup>th</sup>  
Parents are invited to see a short performance of **Speen cheerleaders** at 2:30pm

**Parents Evening** for YR/1 only

March 7<sup>th</sup> **Official opening** of KS1 extension  
March 11<sup>th</sup> Second **Energize** rehearsal  
March 18<sup>th</sup> **Speen School World Book Day** – details  
Coming in book-bags.



**Y2 Basketball tournament** Princes Risborough School. 8 children will be selected to represent the school after 5 weeks of coaching.

March 21<sup>st</sup> **Sport Relief** at Speen School – details to follow  
March 22<sup>nd</sup> **PTA Safari Supper.** – Poster on noticeboard.

March 24<sup>th</sup> An elite athlete and WheelPower Ambassador will bring with him a **Sochi** 2014 Paralympic Torch.

Click here to find out more about this local charity.  
<http://www.wheelpower.org.uk/wpower/index.cfm/giving/be-the-next-wheelpower-school/twenty-5-to-transform-lives/>



March 28<sup>th</sup> **Energize** dress rehearsal at Wycombe Swan. Performance 7:00pm. Tickets available now 2:30 pm

**Mother's assembly-** all welcome  
March 29<sup>th</sup> **Energize** matinee 2:00pm  
April 3<sup>rd</sup> KS1 visit to **Chiltern Open Air Museum.** Curriculum focus History and Design and Technology.

April 4<sup>th</sup> **End of Term Service 9:15am St. John's Church Lacey.** All welcome.  
Last day of term. School closes at **2:00pm**

April 22<sup>nd</sup> School closed for in-service training  
April 23<sup>rd</sup> First day of Summer term

**Save the dates for the summer term.**  
June 13<sup>th</sup> **Dad's (or Grandad's or other adult's) afternoon**  
June 23<sup>rd</sup> **Speenschoolfest week June 26<sup>th</sup>**

June 28<sup>th</sup> **PTA children's party**  
**PTA Summer Ball**  
Denise Nayna