

This Newsletter is being composed following a second soaking from the rain as we cleared the school field following our recent “Grand Firework Evening”. A special thank you to Mr Goldsmith for his co-ordination of the display and assistance in the clearing up. Many thanks also to our Friends Association Committee for all their hard work in arranging this new venture. As I indicated at the Friends AGM, feedback on the event has been totally positive and plans are already in hand to repeat this event next year. As a first time event lessons were learnt regarding aspects of the organisation, e.g. queues for the bar, the lack of a separate refreshment bar for children, some people were unaware that soup was included in the ticket price and seating/table issues in the hall. We will address these next time. I would not, however, take anything away from what was a “Grand evening” albeit with a display shortened by 8 minutes due to the wet weather. Thank you to the 500+ who joined us for the evening and to the many who joined us for an event for the first time. The event raised approximately £700 for the Friends Association. Please consider joining us for the following events:-

Children’s Film Afternoon:

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December

New Year’s Eve:

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> December

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### **INVESTORS IN PEOPLE**

Following a visit by an external assessor, I am pleased to advise parents that we have been recognised under this national award scheme subject to final approval by an Investors’ panel later this month. I would like to record my thanks to the Governors and staff for their input in the achievement of this award and to Mrs Vassallo for co-ordinating the submission.

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### **GOVERNOR/PARENT/FRIENDS AGM**

Thanks again to the 70+ who joined us for these two AGMs and again to the Friends Association for organising the end of evening refreshments. A lot of work goes into the evening with the production of the Governors’ AGM report being particularly time consuming. It is, however, made even more worthwhile with a good attendance and the knowledge that the report has been both well received and read. The issues raised at the meeting will be addressed with parents already seeing the first one, the installation of a sound system to the main hall, which is now in place and operational. I would thank Dave and Maureen Jones for their assistance with this project. Improvement of the school’s resources and environment is ongoing and your support for all of these initiatives are greatly appreciated.

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### **CURRICULUM EVENING – THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER**

Thank you to those of you who joined us on this occasion. In excess of 150 parents gained an insight into Mathematics teaching in this school from Nursery to Year 6. Follow up comments suggest this was

a productive session and it is hoped that other curriculum areas may be able to be covered in a similar way in the future.

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### **Annual Friends Association Craft Fayre**

Your support for this event was tremendous. Thank you to everyone. Initial estimates point to the raising of £1,400. My congratulations to all the Friends Association Committee on this marvellous result. Again there are always things to be reviewed and clearly the inability to satisfy the demand for Father Christmas will need to be addressed. Our apologies to those children who were unable to see him individually.

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### **PLEASE REMEMBER ONGOING PROMOTIONS TO SUPPORT SCHOOL EQUIPMENT**

#### **1. Used Printer Toner Cartridges**

We collect the full range of these from small home printers to large office machines and faxes for recycling. They can be left in the box located in the main reception area. Please ask family members and friends if any companies they work for would consider using us as their recycling point for used toner cartridges. Thank you.

#### **2. Box Tops for Schools: We are collecting these tokens from Nestlé's cereals.**

#### **3. Persil Stars: These stars are to be found on all packets of Persil soap powder from October 2002 until march 2003 and there is a star chart to the right of the display cabinet in the main Reception. Please send the stars in or stick them directly on the chart to help us get free art and craft materials.**

#### **4. Returning soon – Books for Schools**

For information, schools have been advised by Sainsbury's that their points scheme for schools is not going to be repeated next year. We understand, however, that Tesco's will be continuing their Computers for Schools programme in 2003.

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#### **HEAD LICE**

Please find attached leaflet issued by Croydon Health Authority dealing with the treatment of head lice infestation. It would be helpful if parents could use this coming weekend and make a special effort to check their children's hair. The greatest problem is currently in Year 5 but it is an issue that occurs in all year groups from time to time.

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#### **MILK**

Please find a milk order form attached to this Newsletter. Please ensure your orders are received in the office by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December to enable us to place our order with the Dairy before the end of term. Please note milk is free for pupils in the Nursery class.

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#### **SCHOOL BOOKSHOP**

The bookshop recently made a donation of £500 to the school for the purchase of resources and continues to go from strength to strength thanks to your support. We will be open for our final two sessions on **Thursday 5 and Thursday 12 December**. We will have lots of lovely Christmas books, as well as items suitable as presents for both children and adults. There will also be a free to enter raffle for all children. May we ask that parents who prefer that their children do not purchase pens, notebooks etc consider not sending their children on these occasions. It is very difficult for the volunteers running the shop to have to prevent children from purchasing items which they would really like to have.

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#### **SCHOOL WEBSITE**

Recent visitors to our school website will note that following the Governor Parent AGM we have commenced making school policy documents on the site. We would hope over the forthcoming months to establish a full set of documents on the site. I would repeat our previous request for people to proof read the site and advise us of any errors identified as we are expanding the site it becomes more difficult to fully proof read all pages. Thank you.

**26<sup>TH</sup> CROYDON (ST ANDREW'S) SCOUT GROUP**

Please see attached to this Newsletter an urgent plea from this group for new leaders to prevent closure of the Scout Troop at the end of the year.

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**BOOK FAIR**

Thanks to you all for your support of our Christmas Book Fair, well organised again by Mrs Faik and Mrs Lawless. £850 worth of books were earned for the school.

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**DATA CHECKING SHEETS**

We have received back a substantial number of these data checking sheets. In order that we may fully update our records we would ask those who have not returned their sheets to do so as soon as possible. Should you have mislaid your sheet please request a replacement from the school office.

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**CHRISTMAS MENU**

Our Christmas Dinner day is always a fun day and traditionally all children stay for school dinner on this day. Please find attached the dinner menu for this day.

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**DATE LIST CORRECTION**

Apologies but the date given for Year 3's Mass in the last date list issued was incorrect. It should have read Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2003 not Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2002.

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**PHOTOGRAPH MONEY REMINDER**

Please could we have all outstanding photograph returns or money by the end of next week. Mrs Mowbray would like to close the accounts on these photographs before the end of term. Thank you for your co-operation.

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**CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING**

If you wish to recycle your Christmas tree you may take it on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> or Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January to Granville Gardens car park, Norbury, Ikea, Valley Park, Sainsbury's Homebase, Purley Way, or Wyevale Garden Centre, Waddon Way.

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For sale a pair of white ice skating boots (size 4). Please telephone 020 8679 3105 for details.

