

THE FOREST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER-February 2012



THE SADIE ROSE CLIFFORD APPEAL

Sadie Rose is a little girl from Knaresborough who is fighting neuroblastoma, a very aggressive form of cancer that mainly affects young children.

Sadie is currently undergoing treatment in the USA but money is desperately needed to fund her stay and ongoing medical treatment there.

We are holding two special events in school:

On Monday 6th February, one of our teaching staff, Miss Ayres, will be holding a special assembly, where she will talk about Sadie and her family, and how people in Knaresborough are trying to raise money to help Sadie. Miss Ayres is a friend of the Clifford family.

On Wednesday 8th February we are having a 'wear your own clothes day'. All children are asked to wear purple (if possible) on that day. We suggest a donation of £1 per child, but if you would like to give more please do so.

Attached to the newsletter is more information about Sadie Rose.

REVIEW DATES

If you would like to confirm your child's review date, please contact the school office.

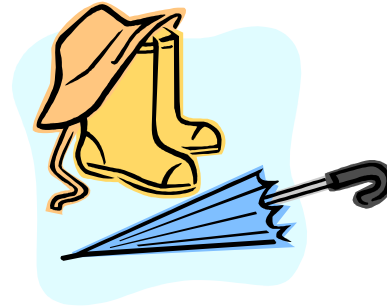
MISS FRANKLAND

Miss Lisa Frankland, our Assistant Head of the Primary School has announced she is to become a Mum in the summer! Lisa will be taking maternity leave from 11 May 2012.

TELL THE GOVERNMENT WHAT MATTERS TO YOU

Attached is a flier from MENCAP for your information. Also attached is some information from MENCAP regarding wills and trusts seminars being held in this area soon.

WOODLAND ADVENTURE



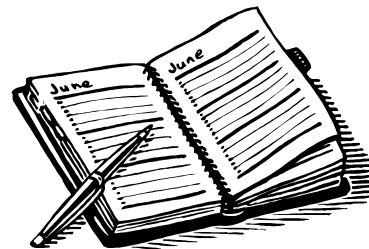
The Woodland Adventure sessions run by Miss Adams are proving to be really popular with the students involved. If you have any unwanted wellies, in any size that you no longer need, we would be very grateful for them.

Also wanted are any larger (teenage) size trousers or jog pants you no longer need. Thank you

PLAYMOBIL EXHIBITION

The 1st Knaresborough Scout group are holding their annual Playmobil exhibition on 18th and 19th February, at the Scout Hut on Wetherby Road in Knaresborough. This is a great event, well supported locally so why not go along to have a look.

KEY DATES



A list of term dates for the next school year (September 2012 - July 2013) is attached.

SWIMMING

Thank you to all parents who have sent in swimming fees. If you have received a

reminder recently please forward money to the school office as soon as possible.

SCIENCE LESSONS

Mr Organ's science lessons continue to enthral and engage the pupils.

This is his contribution to the newsletter:



What is growing in *your* ear wax?

At the beginning of December last term Year 10 Science pupils took part in a short series of lessons on microbiology. They learned about the tiny bacteria, fungi and viruses that live on our skin and inhabit our bodies. One amazing fact they were taught was that for every human cell in our bodies, we have 9 cells from other living organisms - we are all only 10% human! The lessons were given by leading microbiology expert, Professor Kevin Kerr from Harrogate Hospital. Practical activities included an opportunity for pupils to grow "plates" of bacteria taken from samples of their own choice. The pupils chose to try mouth swabs, rings and watches, mobile phones and ear wax. The professor then took them to the hospital where they were incubated for a short time and brought back to show the pupils. Luckily all the bacteria grown were "harmless"!

The pupils learned about how antibiotics were developed to fight bacteria and were shown films of how our own bodies fight disease. They also had to vote for their favourite all time worst microbe - most of them going for the Ebola virus which kills 90% of the people infected by it.

The Professor was very impressed by the knowledge and understanding shown by the pupils and their willingness to contribute and take part in the activities. It is hoped that this will be the first of many collaborations between the school and Professor Kerr.

WINTER WEATHER



Whilst the weather is cold, please ensure your child comes to school in warm clothing. Please also make sure all coats, hats, gloves etc are clearly labelled with your child's name.

NEW SPEECH & LANGUAGE THERAPIST JOINING THE FOREST TEAM

Shona Barber is joining Kath Pringle and Wendy Brotherton as Speech and Language Therapists looking after the communication and swallowing needs of Forest pupils. Shona will be looking after some primary pupils, Wendy will support a mixture of primary and secondary pupils and Kath will be developing the school's capacity to provide cross-curricular support for communication development. A letter will be coming home if your child's Therapist is changing. Bev Roe (Specialist Instructor) and Sadie Ayres (Language Assistant) will continue to run groups and deliver individualised programmes.

ICAN PRIMARY TALK ACCREDITATION

The primary department at Forest School are currently working towards accreditation by ICAN for their Primary Talk programme. ICAN is the children's communication charity (www.ican.org.uk). ICAN's mission is to ensure that no child who struggles to communicate is left out or left behind. Their vision is a world where all children and young people who struggle to communicate receive the help they need so that they can have a happy childhood, make progress at school and thrive as adults. **ICAN Primary Talk** is an accredited programme that supports the communication development of **all** children, including those with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN) and can help schools improve

pupil outcomes. The Forest School is already a Specialist College for Communication and Interaction. The ICAN Primary Talk Accreditation will demonstrate further The Forest's School's commitment to maximise pupils' communicative potential.

YOUNG ENTERPRISE

The Young Enterprise Valentine's Fair takes place on Saturday 4th February at the MacArthur Glen Designer Outlet near York. Please call in to see some of our students selling cards and gifts they have made between 10am and 4pm.

Also, the Young Enterprise team are holding a disco at School on Friday 10th February from 1pm to 2pm. Contribution of £2 includes tattoos and there will be goods for sale.

CHARLES DICKENS EVENT IN RIPON

An exciting new event take place this half term in the Ripon workhouse celebrating the 200th anniversary of CHARLES DICKENS' birth as part of the national celebrations (see www.dickens2012.org). For more Ripon Museum Trust information see the website www.riponmuseums.co.uk

Peter N Hewitt
Headteacher

Your support for your son/daughter's education is crucial to their progress and wellbeing. Please tell us if there are any adjustments we need to help you support them, for example: letters in large font; letters in different languages, wheelchair access, explaining things over the phone or a discussion with a colleague of the same gender.