

# The Shuttle

11 April 2008

Summer Term

## Helping in School

Would you like to help in school and gain a qualification?

The team at Thurlstone Primary school would welcome voluntary support from members of the school community. We have worked with parents, grandparents and friends of the school in a range of different contexts and we have always felt the children, school and the volunteer have all gained from the experience. A number of volunteers have moved on to obtain employment in schools.



As a school we can offer a range of experiences working throughout the school. Many of the skills developed by working in school can be transferable to most workplaces. The school environment is a vibrant place where children and adults learn together. The children benefit from working with different people with a range of experience and knowledge. The school will provide induction and training in areas such as reading programmes, mathematics interventions and learning through play for people interested in becoming a regular volunteer.

If you would be interested in volunteering, please contact Mrs Webb in school or phone her on 01226 762018.

*(See page 2 for details of a new qualification for helping in school)*

## Diary Dates

### April

- 14 Parents Evening
- 15 Parents evening
- 30 Daisy Chains  
AGM 7 pm

### May

- 1 Local elections
- 5 May Day hol
- 23 Break up for  
Spring Bank

### June

- 2 Back to school

### July

- 18 Break up for  
summer hols

## Welcome



We have 2 new children in school. Chloe Marples has joined class three and Elizabeth Hague is in class one. We hope they enjoy their time at Thurlstone Primary School. We look forward to working with them and their families.

## Kingswood

The 2nd payment for Kingswood 2008 is due today. Please take your £50 cash or cheque to the school office as soon as possible. Thanks

## Weekend Weather

(From the Met Office)

Saturday      Sunday



Rain  
showers



More rain

## Helping in School Qualification

We have just received information about a 'Helping in School' qualification, which may be of interest to people considering volunteering or working in schools. Helping in Schools is an accredited course for voluntary helpers in primary schools. It is run by the Workers' Educational Association (WEA) and is accredited through the Open College.

### Accreditation

The Open College credits offered by *Helping in Schools* can be gained at levels 1, 2 or 3. It is taught at level 2 - that is GCSE or NVQ level 2 standard, and level 2 is what the majority of students achieve. The course is structured in such a way however that students have the opportunity to try to reach level 3 - that is A level or NVQ level 3 standard if they wish to.

### Aims

The course aims to help students gain a better understanding of the school curriculum, how a school is organised and run, and how pupils learn. It will also develop self-confidence, increase skills in communication (both written and oral) and classroom management, as well as help develop a range of specific practical skills.

### Evaluations from students

*I learnt a lot that I think a parent should know. I am now able to help my child more at home with reading.*

*My own objective was to understand the National Curriculum, in particular mathematics, in order to help my daughter. But I have learnt so much more including the language used in school and methods for dealing with children's behaviour, both in school and at home.*

*The course helped me immensely in understanding and helping my children at home with all their learning. I now know how they are taught and am able to reinforce it.*

*I identify much more with teachers and other staff than I did when I was just a parent. And now I have better skills in the classroom I feel I can relate to them more.*

*I now have the confidence and determination to pursue finding a position in a school as a classroom assistant.*

This information has just arrived at school and the course is starting on the 14 April. If you are interested or require any additional information, please contact me at school.

Becky

Mrs Webb

## Parents Evenings



Don't forget that Parents evenings are next Monday and Tuesday. If you haven't handed in your form to request an appointment, please do so. It's a great opportunity to speak to your child's teacher and find out how he/she is doing in school.

## Daisy Chains AGM

Don't forget about the Daisy Chains Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 30 April at 7 pm in the Crystal Palace, Thurlstone. It is an opportunity to come out for a social evening with a bit of business thrown in. There are some vacant positions this year. These are as follows:

**Chairperson** - with a view to taking over for the next year.

**Vice chair** - supports the chairperson, with a view to taking over next year.

**Secretary** - takes minutes at the meetings and distributes these to members of the committee, filling in paperwork as and when required.

**General committee members** - no specific job, ready and willing to help out and bring ideas to the committee meetings.



You don't have to be a mum - dads, aunts or grandparents can help too. If you would like to nominate someone (please check with them first), please let Tracey Standhaven, Adele Townsend, Rachel Dickinson or Sarah Pollard know as soon as possible. Thank you.

## Drum Lessons



There is a vacancy for drum lessons. If anyone is interested, please ask in the school office as soon as possible.

## Baby Massage

There will be a Baby Massage Class starting at St Andrew's Church, Penistone from Friday 25 April at 9.45 am for 5 weeks. The course costs £30 and includes all oils and support material to help you massage your baby with confidence. It is for babies who are 6 weeks old to crawling. Baby massage can reduce restlessness, help promote sleep, aid digestion, improve colic and help parent/baby bonding. For information and booking details, call Rebecca Barnett on 01226 765925. Prior booking is required.



## A Chance to Dance



Penistone Grammar School Parents Association are holding a social evening on Friday 18 April at PGS from 7.30 pm to 10 pm. You will have dance tuition from Helen Neill School of Dance. Drinks will be available to purchase on the night. Tickets are £5 per person and are available from PGS reception or phone 01226 762114/760871.

## Student Information Sheet

If your child is in Y6 and going to Penistone Grammar School this September, please ensure that you return the Student Information Sheet to school as soon as possible if you haven't already done so.



## And finally ...

What do you call a snowman in summer?

A puddle!

Ha Ha Ha

