



# Layston C of E First School

## Newsletter

8<sup>th</sup> February 2010



As we draw towards the end of the first half term of the new year, we have more exciting developments to share with you.

### Sensory Garden

As I write, men are at work with their mini digger making a start on our long awaited Sensory Garden. This is a project designed to transform the sad piece of grass behind the classroom in the lower playground into a quiet place for both the Opportunity Group and our children to share and to enjoy. Indeed, the children are already enjoying watching the work in progress! The project is funded by a Lottery grant. If you would like to see the plans, they are on display in the hall.



### Development of our Outdoor Environment

We are also making a start on the project to develop the existing wild area at the top of the field. We are constructing a bank and cutting pathways through the woodland. A stile and gates are being installed to allow access. We are delighted that this will be completed before the spring growth starts. Hopefully, children will be enjoying exploring and learning there this summer.



### Arrangements during Mrs Watkins Maternity Leave

Mrs Watkins will be starting her maternity leave at the beginning of May. We are delighted to be able to tell you that Mrs Gillingham will be moving into Year 2 until Mrs Watkins returns. Mrs Price will take over from Mrs Gillingham in Year 1 for three days a week, sharing the class with Mrs McMurrough. We are very pleased that these arrangements, involving teachers who are already in the school, will ensure that there is a smooth transition for the children.



### Parent Consultation Evenings

These will take place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday this week.

## PTA Events

The PTA has a very busy programme of events for you during the next couple of months. Please put these dates in your diary:

- 5th March - Mad March Hair - come in your uniform as usual but with mad hair! Don't forget to bring in a boxed Easter egg.
- w/c 29th March - Easter Hat & Mask competition - prizes donated by the PTA - free entry - judging on 1st April
- 30th March - Easter Egg tombola



Thanks to the PTA for Friday's disco and for Yr 2s Cake Bake. The cakes raised £91.66 which is the most so far!

One more date - Mother's Day Event in Reception - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March

## Speed Stacking

We are delighted to announce that our speed stacking team had the fastest times in the local heat of The Sport Stack Competition and will be taking part in the County Finals at Hatfield on 25<sup>th</sup> February. Well done to them all and good luck!

## Relief Midday Supervisor

We are looking for someone who is interested in being an occasional midday supervisor at our school. We need a person to cover for absences. Please ask at the office for further details.

## Sickness

As yet another sickness bug is visiting us, please can we remind you that children should not return to school after they have been sick or had an upset tummy until they are completely better. Doctors advise a period of 48 hours at home after the symptoms have stopped.

## Home Access Grant

If you are a low income family in receipt of certain benefits you could qualify for a grant to buy a computer and/or a year's internet access. More information is available at [www.homeaccess.org.uk](http://www.homeaccess.org.uk). If you need help to visit this site please let us know.



Spring Concert Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February at 1.30pm

Just a reminder - all welcome!

Kind regards  
Gill Langley

