



Wellfield Middle School

NEWSLETTER

14 OCT 2009

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Dear Parent/Carer

We are approaching half term and I would like to remind you that the school is closed for staff training, as previously announced, on October 23. **School, therefore, finishes for pupils at 3-30 on Thursday 22 October.** We re-open for staff and pupils after half term on Monday 2 November.

Non Uniform Day

The last day of this half term, **Thursday 22**, will be a free non-uniform day and pupils will not have to give any donation towards this.

Expectations re Behavior

Parents/Carers, I am sure that you will appreciate that although we want our pupils to have fun in school and let off steam, at the same time the safety and well being of everyone is paramount. We have a number of boys who are really too boisterous and who insist, despite warnings and requests, on playing bulldogs, wrestling each other to the ground and jumping on each other etc. Pupils are being hurt and the time has come for me to take a stance on this. From now on any pupil caught doing the things above will be automatically given an incident slip and may be kept in at break/lunchtime. I would be grateful if you would re-inforce this message with your child.



Comenius Visit

Last week 4 of our staff, Mrs Ridley, Miss Chilton, Mrs Allan and Mr Kelly visited Slovakia as part of a Comenius international educational visit. This has been fully funded by the British Council and follows on from a visit to our school last year by a number of international teachers. This project will enable us all to share experiences of different cultures and educational systems. Pupils are also involved in joint projects and pen-pal arrangements. We welcome our staff back this week and look forward to hearing of their experiences abroad.

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School Disco

Advance notice that there will be a disco organised by members of the FWS on Tuesday 3 November from 6-30 to 8pm in the school hall. For parents and pupils new to us a few more pieces of information that you might like to have. The disco is staffed by parents and staff. Entry is £2 and in addition sweets and drinks are sold in the dining room. Pupils will need to bring a little extra, therefore, if they want to purchase refreshments. All food/drink must be consumed in the dining hall. Pupils will not be released before 8pm unless a parent has specifically requested this. All funds raised goes towards school based activities including the insurance of the minibus. We ask that pupils are collected promptly at 8pm please on the night.

FWS -Urgent Request

We recently held a FWS meeting which was poorly attended and we are anxious that FWS may not be able to organise events such as discos over the rest of the year. I am asking you again, therefore, to please consider helping this group. You don't need to take on a specific job or committee post (though this would be appreciated if you did) but simply volunteer to be called on from time to time to help with events such as discos once or twice over the year. There is a reply slip attached to this letter. Please return this to school if you can help in any way. Thank you.

Reply slip for FWS

I am happy to help with events organised by the FWS in school and am happy to be contacted by them if necessary .

(I am happy for the school office to give them my contact number)

Name _____

Name of your child _____

Your signature _____

Use of cycles

Cycle racks are now in place as you know and new signage has been introduced so we are ready to proceed and allow pupils to bring bikes to school. Some awareness training has taken place in school already and we hope to offer further bikeability training as soon as possible. If you as parents/carers are satisfied that the route your child will take is safe and that your child is responsible enough to do the journey to and from school we are happy to allow them to bring their cycle to school as from Monday 19 October. We insist that cyclists dismount at the school entrance and wheel their cycle to the racks and do the same in reverse at the end of the day. We will do everything we can to ensure things run smoothly but unfortunately we cannot take any responsibility for cycles and equipment brought onto the site. Please be aware of this when deciding if your child is to come to school by bike. We will review arrangements in due course

Skellig Visit

A large number of pupils in year 8 are going to see a production of Skellig this week in Newcastle. This is a great opportunity and I would like to thank the English Department for organising this event for year 8.



Lets Grow Vouchers

The school is again collecting 'Lets Grow' vouchers, for school gardening equipment. This year vouchers will be available from your local Morrisons supermarket. They can also be found on the packaging of some products, also as codes on shopping receipts. All of which can be handed into school.

Rugby

There has been a great start to the Key Stage 3 Rugby season. A really good turn out to training on Monday evenings 3.30 - 4.30 has prepared us well (New players are always welcome). Our first game against West Sleekburn middle school on the 30th of September was a great first game and resulted with a 39-21 win. Our returning year 8 players showed the value of their experience from last year with a very strong performance. Our new players from year 7 got their first experience of a Rugby match holding their own and I'm sure will play a big part this season.

Our second game came a week later and everyone knew it would be one to remember. On the 8th October we took on Kings School in Tynemouth in a full 15 a side match. Captain Ross Wall said of the game; 'The Kings game was an excellent experience for us. It was a very close match although the score line in the end was 24-12 we matched them for most of the match. With a large squad on the touchline their fresh legs in the end got the better of us. Their experience also showed with their ability to keep the ball at rucks and excellent scrum work. I felt we did show them a lesson or two in tackling and we had some great individual runs. Mr Jinks.

Bliss Football

We apologise for the cancellation of the above after school event in the past two weeks. As this is an outside agency cancellation is beyond our control. We anticipate that sessions will resume next week. The coaches have asked us to pass on the message that in the event of severe weather, sessions will always be cancelled.

S.W. Collinson, Headteacher