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Newsletter No 6

Friday 15th January 2010

Adults may be growing weary with the snow, but what fun we have had with the children. Snowmen have been built in snow and clay. Frosty poems have been read. Properties of ice and salt have been discussed. Wet gloves have been dried on the big old radiators and we have slithered and skated around our 'ice rink' playground as if it were purpose-built for just such an event. Surely we should patent the design of our 'playground in the clouds' as an all-weather solution for all schools! It has been great as the children have enjoyed fresh air every day. We are still on the lookout for AstroTurf though, so please do keep it in mind.

Over the holidays we were pleased to receive a gift of some Lego and a giant puzzle from Mrs Clare Sandy, and some wonderful books from Lorna Truscott. We are always open to receiving construction toys, puzzles and educational activities, should they come your way!



Mrs Dalton led an excellent 'show and tell' session yesterday when the children were able to present their 'favourite book' to the class. The idea behind this was not only to encourage their abilities in presentation skills and talking to an audience, but also to encourage your child to think of interesting and informative questions. Over the next few weeks the children will be asked to bring in an item every second Wednesday to share with

the class. Thank you for your support in this.

Reading Matters!

Many of you have supported your children wonderfully with their word cards which they have been bringing home. As from today each child will have a reading record book. This will be sent home every evening for you to record that you have heard your child read. We will try to hear your child read at least every alternate day. In the reading record book we will try to guide you as to how much we expect you to do. This will vary from child to child. I have found some helpful notes which I have adapted in order to help you with encouraging your child to read. (See Attached) If your child is not ready for a formal 'reader', and is yet to embark on word cards they will be given a library book for you to read and share with them instead. Some children will have both word cards and reader books. Each child is an individual and all are therefore at different stages!

A gentle note of warning

Whilst in general you have been wonderful at returning the word cards, a few have gone missing. If a book goes missing we will require that you pay for a replacement. If it is one of our graded readers you will be required to replace the set of six as they are not sold individually, so please treat them with care and return them. Thank you. Please also note that **written homework** should be completed and returned by **Thursday** so that it can

be marked and new work set for the week-end.

Phone Numbers

Please can you use the taxi mobile for problems relating to your child using the taxi, and the school number for attendance or any other issue. Both phones have an answer phone. The numbers are at the top of every Newsletter.

Looking Ahead

Attached to the Newsletter is the long-term planning grid for the Spring Term, to give you an idea of your child's learning this term.

Open Events and Parent Meetings

Tuesday 23rd February 9.30 -11.00am

Wednesday 24th February 4.00 - 6pm

Thursday 25th February 6.30 - 8pm

As before, the open **morning** event is aimed at **prospective** parents, and I will be giving them a short talk at intervals about New Model Schools, and especially Faraday. The **late afternoon and evening** events are aimed not only for prospective parents, but also for you, our **current** parents. There will be no taxi home for children on Wednesday 24th February; however Mrs Gammon will be available to care for your child in school if you need it on this afternoon.

Sarah Counter