



Ruishton Church of England Primary School

Newsletter
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w/b Nov 10th
2008

Next letter due the week beginning
Nov 24th

Dear Parents,

This letter is just a little bit later than promised. More Government initiatives have meant I've had to be out of school at a number of meetings on such diverse issues as Healthy Schools Plus, a virtual classroom by 2010, and a local and nationwide database of children's details. More will come out on all of these as they are launched.

Our new **telephone system** has a menu, which I am not a great fan of normally, but it actually works extremely well, so I swallow my words. Please listen to the menu, don't just assume we're not here, as some have done. Messages left for me need to be personal and not urgent, as I am sometimes not in school, and may not be able to pick them up for a few days. The quickest option is to press "3" when the menu starts and talk to the office or leave a message there.

The **school dinner** menus have ham salad or ploughman's on them for one of the Friday meals... this is in fact corned beef salad! We have a **new floor** in the hall, as the carpet, comfortable and quiet though it was, was not conducive to being covered in cauliflower, cabbage and gravy. The new floor is an acoustic, non-slip surface and we do ask that any users do not wear heels ... in the interests of equality that includes men! We do not keep change in school and neither do the dinner providers have the facility to give change. Please ensure that the dinner slips are accompanied by the **exact money** and are in a named envelope as we get quite a lot which are separate from the money and sometimes unnamed. Occasionally they are not even filled in!

As you will have noticed we have been given planning permission to erect a **new building** for Woodlands pre-school and an extended school club. Whilst we have builders on site please don't use the field or the climbing apparatus. We plan to build new offices and enlarge the entrance hall next year if we can raise the necessary funding, and that probably completes our building programme, which has taken about three years.

We would like to take the opportunity to remind you of the school's **ethos statement** which appears in a legal document called the Trust Deed. This is of very great importance in the light of the school's status as a Church of England School from 1861.

Recognising its historic foundation, Ruishton School will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level. The school aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith, and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils. At school we intend to create a happy, secure and stimulating environment in which all members of the school community can grow in self-esteem and develop their full potential as human beings and consider the rights and feeling of others.

Neil Dalton