

<<title>> <<firstname>> <<lastname>> <<address>>



Newsletter 1
Sept 11th 2009

Next letter due in the
week ending 25th Sept

Ruishton Church of England Primary School

Dear Parents,

Welcome back (or indeed to us for the first time) after what I hope was a lovely summer holiday. We say hello to the new reception children as well as Charlotte and Ben Newman, and Summer Adamson. Miss Mortimer is now Vicky Smith, so our congratulations go to her and Colin, and I am also very pleased to announce that Debbie Finely will soon be increasing her family as well. So congratulations are due to her (and her husband of course). Sylviane Koechlin joins us from France for twelve months every Friday. We also welcome back to the school Julie Gill, formerly Julie Porter.

You will already have noticed the new offices, with accompanying changes to the entrance, as well as the resource base. This brings to an end the long term changes we have been involved in for over four years, but who knows...something else might come along in the future. It all depends on funding, which is certainly getting very much tighter now. If you wish to talk to Tina or myself there is a buzzer by the office door; please press it if we are not obvious by our presence, but we have no intention of hiding from anyone I promise.

I attach a calendar for this year. Some INSET days are marked but there will be five in total. During this term we will be holding the Harvest service at Church (Oct 13th 9.45am) and some children will then represent us at a special service to celebrate the Diocese's 1100th anniversary and present the takings from the Harvest Auction held in the afternoon to the Bishop to support farmers in Zambia. There will also be a joint Remembrance Day Service on November 8th, again at church, which you are more than welcome to attend, and of course the plays and carol service at Christmas. Details will follow in due course.

If your child is entitled to free school meals then they may also be entitled to free school milk; or you may want to register to receive daily milk anyway. You can do this at Coolmilk.com. School meals lists need to be returned by Wednesday morning each week, and can be placed in the blue box in the entrance hall. Please keep a list of the days you have ordered, as we get quite a number of children turning up on the wrong day and we don't have spare food.

Finally, **with immediate effect**, schools have been instructed to be much stricter in authorising holiday leave in term time. At the very least you have to demonstrate that your request meets one of the following. I am sorry, as we understand that a good family holiday is a benefit to all, but they are the rules I have to adhere to, as all requests are monitored by the Education Attendance Team.

- (a) *a clear compassionate element;*
- (b) *a very significant extended family event;*
- (c) *parent's very restrictive employment conditions on when they can have their holiday. Evidence may be requested from the employer that this is the case.*

Welcome to the new school year!

