

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



Ruishton Church of England Primary School

Newsletter  
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Next letter due by  
Feb 25th

January 25<sup>th</sup> 2010

Dear Parents,

Unfortunately we have had a visit from the **lead thieves** again. A substantial amount of lead flashings and collars have been taken from the school roof, but alongside that a great deal of damage has been done, with cracked tiles, damage to roof windows etc. If you notice anything suspicious if you live in the area, please tell us. Don't approach anyone as knives have been used to strip the lead. Any vehicles parking overnight in the car park will be reported to the police as suspicious. What annoys me most, is that a lot of the flashings on school are not lead; the lead was replaced after the last thefts by a more modern flashing, which is just as expensive to install, but absolutely worthless as scrap. The cost to the school and the local authority is many thousands of pounds, and time spent in rectifying external damage and subsequent internal repairs because of the entry of rain.

We are very pleased that the school has been assessed under the new **Investors in People** award with great success. Before last term ended we mentioned "**Tools for Self Reliance**" a charity helping others, mainly in Africa, to develop skills in woodwork, metalwork etc. If you have any old, but good quality, tools which can be refurbished please pass them on to us. We have a small group of children ready to receive any offers.

Our **Eco group** would benefit very much from the involvement of an adult on the "board". If you think you can help us please contact Chris Kamin. I would also like to remind you about "holiday entitlement", which doesn't in fact exist. I don't make the rules and I actually do see great benefit in an annual family holiday, so usually allow an absence for a few days; however any child with an **attendance of below 90%** (soon to be 95%) for any reason at all is always investigated by the school attendance officer. Regular late arrival is similarly put under scrutiny and any arrival after the closure of the morning register (9.05 am) is recorded as an unauthorised absence. Poor attendance or persistent lateness can lead to prosecution... in fact it does. I send out "warning" letters as a helpful reminder but matters are taken out of my hands eventually.

**Dates** for this term:

Jan 29 <sup>th</sup>	Mike Strange in for assembly; PTA disco
Feb 13 <sup>th</sup> to 21 <sup>st</sup>	half term
April 2 <sup>nd</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup>	Easter holiday

Happy New Year

Neil Dalton