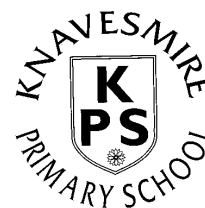
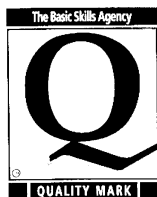


City of York Council - Learning Culture and Children's Services



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Knavesmire Primary School  
Trafalgar Street  
South Bank  
YORK  
YO23 1HY

Headteacher: Mrs. C. Weston  
8<sup>th</sup> September 2008

Dear Parents,

Welcome back. I hope you all had an excellent summer break. All the children have settled well and are already back into the school routines. We have had a hectic summer with the complete renewal of the kitchens in the staffroom and Nursery, a new floor and carpet in the Reception classroom following problems with the old wooden floor and repairs to several water leaks both inside and outside!

Congratulations must go to Mrs Croyle who was successful in being appointed as an Early Years Advanced Skills Teacher for the Local Authority in the last week of term. She will be working across various schools in the authority every Monday for the next academic year and I am sure she will have a big impact as well as bringing back lots of valuable experience to Knavesmire. Miss Woolgar will provide cover during her absence. Congratulations too to Miss Muschik who became Mrs Gibson during the summer break!

Once again we have planned an exciting start to the new term. We have numerous events planned in the week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> September, all linked to the theme of 'Food' and covering all curriculum areas. Details of an extensive list of extra curricular clubs and music tuition will follow later. We were unfortunately not successful in our bid to continue our partnership with the Theatre Royal this academic year (after three years it is possibly someone else's turn!) but we hope to still be able to visit the theatre regularly. We have been promised that we can still access the cheaper tickets for the children for performances but this offer will not extend to the pantomime so there will unfortunately be no school visit this year. We will be welcoming another French Language Assistant in October who will work throughout the school until May next year.

### Diary Dates

15 Sept	Library opens for borrowing books
18 Sept	6.30pm KCKC AGM
22 Sept	Annual Parents and Governors Meeting 7.00pm
22-26 Sept	Food Week
30 Sept	3.30pm 2009 Residential Visit Meeting for Y5 parents and children
1 - 6 Oct	Book Fair
23 Oct	Phonics Evening 7.00pm
10 Nov	Parents' Evening 4.00 – 7.30 (Y1-Y6)
11 Nov	Parents' Evening 3.30 - 5.00 (Y1– 6)

(Parents' Evening dates for Rec and NU will be on the Foundation Stage Newsletter)

11 Nov	Individual Photographs
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4 Dec	Open Afternoon for Reception 2009 parents and children from 1.30pm onwards
8 Dec	Theatre Company Performances for Rec/KS1 and KS2
10 Dec	KS1 Concert 9.30am
11 Dec	KS1 Concert 2.00pm
12 Dec	Foundation Stage Concert 10.30am (Rec and NUam)
15 Dec	KS1 Christmas Party NUpm Singing Around the Christmas Tree
16 Dec	Rec/NUam Party
17 Dec	NUpm Party
17 Dec	Carol Service in St. Chad's Church 1.30pm (date to be confirmed)
18 Dec	KS2 Party

### **Food Week**

The following events have been planned so far:

- 'Food Art' workshops with Lee Threadgold for KS1 and KS2
- Rec and Y1 to visit the Food Fair in York
- Y3 and Y6 to take part in Healthy Food Workshops
- York College chefs/students to cook with the pupils
- Indian Cookery for Y2 and Y4
- Music/Dance on the theme of food with Miss Woolgar for all classes
- Caribbean Menus, competitions, activities etc in the canteen all week

Please let staff know if you would be willing to help out with activities or talk to classes or groups on any food related theme e.g. food production, farming, cookery demonstrations, baking, food from other cultures etc.

On Friday 26th September we will be holding an 'Afternoon Tea' and Food Sale from 2.45 to 3.30 on the Racecourse VIP Car Park (opposite school on Campleshon Road) to conclude our week and to raise money to support our child in India, Vignesh. In the event of yet more wet weather we hold the sale at school! By raising a minimum of £180 we can provide Vignesh with food, shelter, medical care and education for a whole year. We receive regular letters from Vignesh and have recently received a photograph and report of his progress. Through our support we hope to give him the skills that he needs to earn a reliable income in later life.

### **School Book Fair**

The School Book Fair will be open each evening after school from Wednesday 1st October to Monday 6th October 3.15 – 4.00 and on Friday 3rd October from 11.30 – 12.00. The Fair sells a wide range of books to suit all ages as well as posters and pens/pencils etc. The school receives a generous commission on all sales to spend on books so we do hope that you will support the event. A good chance to buy some early Christmas presents and for us to buy some new books for the library.

### **Dinner Money**

Could you please ensure that dinner money is paid on Mondays for the whole week and that the correct money is placed in an envelope with your child's name/class and days on which they want lunch. This helps us to ensure that lessons are not interrupted and staff do not have to bank money each day. The current cost of a school meal is £2.05 per day or £10.25 per week.

### **Medication**

Please ensure that all medication that we hold in school, such as inhalers is up to date. If your child requires unforeseen medication please fill in a form with all the details at the school office. Remember that we can only give medication prescribed and dispensed by a doctor and not things such as calpol, cough medicine, throat lozenges etc bought 'over the counter'.

### **Address Updates**

Please let the office know if you have moved house or changed home/work/emergency contact telephone numbers so that we can update our records.

### **Homework**

You will shortly be receiving details from your child's class teacher of the homework for each class and the days when it needs to be returned and also useful tips and advice with answers to the questions we are most frequently asked. Target Files will then follow with more details of the curriculum this term, PE days etc. We hope this information helps and would welcome any feedback. Please see your child's teacher if you have any queries or concerns.

### **Library Opening Times**

We have again spent over £2000 on new books over the summer, many of them requested by the children giving us an excellent selection of fiction and non-fiction texts. All children will have the opportunity to change and borrow books during the school week and in addition, the library will open from Monday 15th September from 3.15 – 4.00 every Tuesday – Friday and 11.40 – 12.00 Tuesday only for NUam pupils for parents to change books with their children. The library will be manned by a member of staff, but all FS and KS1 pupils must be accompanied by a responsible adult during the after school sessions. KS2 pupils must have a signed permission slip to stay behind after school if unaccompanied by a responsible adult, and inform us how the pupil will get home. Please do use the library with your child, it is an excellent resource.

### **School Website**

The School Website is now up and running and can be found at [www.knavesmire.org.uk](http://www.knavesmire.org.uk) We are still uploading information so please check back regularly or let us know if you have any suggestions. You will be able to find all newsletters on the site if you misplace them or need to refer back to information a couple of days after they are sent home with the children.

### **Parent Governors**

At the end of last term, after only receiving two nominations for the two vacant posts, Marianne McNeill and Bill Schofield were re-elected unopposed as parent governors.

We now have another vacancy on the School Governing Body for a parent governor. If you would like to stand for election you should signify your willingness to stand in writing together with the signatures of a proposer and seconder who should also be parents of children registered at the school. If there is only one nomination then they will be declared as a governor. If there are more nominations then a secret ballot will be held. Nomination Forms and further information on who can stand as a Parent Governor are available from, and should be returned to, the school office by Friday 19th September at 9.00a.m. If you have any queries or questions please do not hesitate to contact school or any of the governors.

Finally, please remember that if you have any concerns, problems or worries about your child, staff are always available and willing to discuss them with you. For teaching staff, meetings after school are usually more convenient than at the beginning of the day. If you wish to see me, appointments can always be made with Mrs Morley.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. C. Weston

**Headteacher**