



WEEKLY BULLETIN 4th December '09

Parent Forum

This week, the senior team held a parents' forum, giving parents the opportunity to meet with senior staff and raise any issues which they wanted to discuss. Thank you to those parents who attended this meeting. Issues which were discussed included:

- (a) **Home / school communication** - Parents feel that this is of a good standard and they do feel 'in the loop'. The various assessments the school has sent home this term were commented on favorably. The text message service also helps communication reach home. *The school will investigate how feasible it is to send some communication (such as the weekly bulletin) home by e-mail.*
- (b) **Student welfare** - Parents commented on how happy their children are in school, and how the transition to a new school in particular had gone so well. The distinctive ethos of the school was commented on.
- (c) **Formal Evenings** - We discussed ways to further improve events like parents' evenings and the Year 6 Open evening.
- (d) **Parking** - The lack of parking space was discussed and the school's attempts to try to ease the congestion at the end of the school day. The school will continue to 'marshal' this as we currently do - but access at school closure time remains a problem

Steve Mulcahy

YEAR 10 VISIT TO TATE GALLERY.

For this visit all students need to remember the following; Wear sensible clothes. It is likely that the weather will be inclement so a warm outdoor coat or waterproof is essential as we shall be drawing outside at certain points during the day. Sometimes students have not heeded this and so spend a wet and cold day feeling rather miserable. Students should bring either a packed lunch or money to buy a pasty or similar in St Ives. Can they also bring a black plastic bag to both protect their sketch books and to sit on should it be wet.

CHILDREN IN NEED

TAWI raised £83 by selling cakes, raffling a Pudsey Bear and running a Pudsey Treasure Hunt. Chelsea McCabe won the Pudsey in the raffle and Jonathon Russell won the Pudsey in the Treasure Hunt. Big thank you to Kelan Pascoe for all his hard work in organising the Treasure Hunt and many thanks to members of the tutor group for making cakes and selling raffle tickets.

The total raised for Children in Need was £1491.51.

Diary

May I remind parents that key dates for the remainder of this term are on this week's bulletin. Can I draw your attention particularly to the Carol Service held at the Cathedral and the Informal Carol Service held at the school. These are both really wonderful occasions and something which have a rich tradition at Richard Lander. If you have not attended one of these events in the past, and particularly if you are a parent new to the school, I would encourage you to put these dates in your diary!



Christmas Book Fair

We would like to invite all Friends of Richard Lander to our Christmas Book Fair Event which is being provided by The Harbour Bookshop from St. Ives. It will take place on Tuesday 8th December between 6.00 and 7.30 pm at school. A selection of new and exciting titles for both young people and adults will be available to order or purchase. An answer to all your Christmas gift problems! Seasonal refreshments will be served. We hope to see you there.

PARIS 2010

Not that long now until this exciting trip!
May I remind you all of the payment dates:
£100 by 2nd October 2009
£100 by 4th December 2009
£80 by 15th January 2010
Of course, you may make payments at other times.
Please remember to send all payments to ADMIN 1 with your student's name and tutor group clearly marked

LOST PROPERTY

There is a great deal of lost property that is unclaimed each month. Should your child lose something he/she should enquire at Student Reception. Students are regularly provided with the chance to look through lost property but very few choose to do so. Should you become aware that items have been lost, please ensure that your son/daughter follows this procedure.



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Key Dates for December '09

December

Monday 7th – Friday 11th - **Christmas Book Fair**

Year 7 Bodmin Visit

Christmas Service – Cathedral

Tuesday 8th/Wednesday 9th - **Year 8**

Technology Days

Thursday 10th / Friday 11th - **Year 10**

trip to The Tate

Thursday 10th - **West Cornwall U16**

Rugby at Tretherras

Monday 14th - **Fitness Training**

Monday 14th/Tuesday 15th - **Year 10**

Creative Writing visit to Lanhydrock

Thursday 17th - **Francovision Event**

Informal Carol Service

Tamworth Snow Dome Trip

Friday 18th - **Year 11 Visit to London**

Break up for Christmas Holidays

SPORT

Learning Community Rugby

Year 7 & 10 – **Tuesday after school 3:30-4:30pm**

Year 8 & 9 – **Thursday lunchtime 1-2pm**

Year 11 – **Friday lunchtime 1-2pm**

Netball

Year 10 – **Tuesday lunchtime 1-2pm**

Year 8 – **Tuesday after school 3:30-4:30pm**

Year 9 – **Wednesday lunchtime 1-2pm**

Year 7 – **Wednesday after school 3:30-4:30pm**

Year 11 – **Thursday lunchtime 1-2pm**

"Friends of Richard Lander"

Many apologies for the late cancellation of "The Friends of Richard Lander" meeting this week as a result of ill health, but rest assured a new date in January has been chosen, that being Tuesday January 19th 2010 at 6pm. In preparation could you forward any suggestions that you might have for information evenings to ENQUIRIES@richardlander.cornwall.sch.uk or speak directly to me on 01872 273750. These evenings will be of no longer than one hour's duration and can cover any topic that you feel would be useful for parents. For instance, so far this year we have held evenings devoted to safe usage of ICT and a consultation on our Sex and Relationships Education Policy, a Year Seven "Cheese and Wine" consultation and a parents' forum.

Our specified overseas focus is likely to be to support Richard Lander School in New Bussa, Nigeria in the development of an ICT facility.

Our annual charity fund raising event "Summer Fun In The Sun" also needs to be planned. Just as importantly we need to discuss a calendar of social events.

P Gilbert.

PROCEDURE FOR STUDENT ABSENCE:

In the event of a student being absent please call our 24 hour absence line on 01872 273772. Holidays should only be taken with consent of the Headteacher and holiday forms can be obtained through Student Reception.



Congratulations and many thanks, we managed to raise over £70 for The Terrance Higgins Trust on World Aids Day.

YEAR 11

Now is the time for year 11 students to think carefully about their options post 16. Thank you to all the parents that attended the Truro College open evening and the recent careers fair held here at Richard Lander. In the first half of the spring term we will be expecting students to complete their post 16 application forms so it is crucial they gather as much information as they can to make informed choices. Students are encouraged to look to the local press and our post 16 notice board for information.

YEAR 7 VISITOR

The Rev Jane Willcock has visited every year 7 group to talk about her life as a Minister, her work within the wider community and to show students religious artefacts. The students really enjoyed her presentation and we thank her for all her hard work. We are also keen to invite speakers from other faiths to share their experiences with the students, particularly from the Buddhist tradition. If you think you may be able to help please contact the RE department.

