

CHILTHORNE DOMER CHURCH SCHOOL

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1st April 2008

Dear Parents,

Huff and Puff at Chilthorne Domer Church School

This is the last newsletter of the term before we begin our 'Easter' holiday on Friday! From my previous newsletter you will have heard that 'H and P' is coming to our playground soon.

H and P stands for '**Huff and Puff**' and is an approach to getting children actively involved with a range of play equipment, to develop skills and learn to play better together. We are hoping to begin our 'Huff and Puff lunchtimes' during the second week back after the holiday. All mid-day supervisors have received training and will be leading play, our **year 5 and 6 children will be helping as Playground Leaders**. The school has spent a lot of money on the resources and as part of the Huff and Puff programme children are encouraged to take responsibility for the equipment using a **token system**, which is common to most H and P schools.

- **The 'token' is a key ring which will be issued in exchange for a £1 deposit.**
- **Younger children will keep their token in a box in class, (Ash and Beech).**
- **Older children will be responsible for their own token. (Oak and Willow)**
- **The equipment will be available on a rota basis and will be varied.**
- **Each child will exchange their token for a piece of equipment and when the equipment is returned at the end of lunchtime the token will be given back. (Hopefully in this way children will understand the importance of looking after equipment and being responsible.)**
- **If the piece of equipment is lost or not returned, the deposit is forfeited.**

The H and P scheme works very well in schools throughout the country and we are pleased to be introducing it here at Chilthorne Domer Church School. I really would ask for your support in this new venture and know the children will enjoy the new opportunities it will bring. After the holiday, providing the field is dry, the children will be able to go on the field without their 'field clothes'.

Play Forum Grant :

We have been awarded a Play Forum Grant to develop role play areas in our playgrounds. More details will follow shortly.

Thank you.

I have to say a big thank you to all the parents of children in Oak Class who went to great efforts to provide the children with World War 2 costumes. We all had a brilliant WW 2 Experience Day at Nothe Fort when the children got a small taste of what life was like during WW 2.

Thank you also to those parents who joined us for our Easter Service at the church.

Thank you to all parents and visitors to the school who are making an effort to not go through the staff room, we do appreciate it very much.

Absence calls:

Well done to all parents who have called in to notify the office when a child is absent. Please could I remind everyone to ring in on the first morning of absence and give an indication of how long the child will be away. If the time is longer please ring in again to confirm. There will then be no need for a note when your child returns if you have telephoned. We have to account for absence and our County Attendance Officer will be visiting in the early part of the summer term to go over the figures and analyse unexplained or frequent absence.

Year of Reading:

This is the National Year of Reading and libraries throughout Somerset are looking for as many children as possible to join. With the holiday just around the corner this would be an ideal time to visit and see what your local library has on offer.

School Disco: Two great discos were held in school last Friday and nearly all the children attended. It was lovely to see them having such a great time. Thank you to all the parents on the PTFA who made the evening possible.

Kilve Residential: Children from Willow Class are enjoying their trip to Kilve. I am hoping to join them on Wednesday. They have been very lucky with the weather so far and I hope it lasts well into the holidays!

Helpers:

I am looking for willing helpers to come into school to hear children read. It does not have to be for a whole morning, an hour would be welcome! Also, if there is an avid chess player out there who is willing to help run a club please contact me.

Finally, I hope you all have a wonderful break with your children and look forward to seeing back in school on Monday 21st April 2008.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. T. Hobbs

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Name of child:

Class:

I received the letter about Huff and puff.*

I enclose a £1 deposit for the Huff and Puff token.*

Signed:

(Please delete as necessary)