



Newsletter

May 2015

Dear Parents/Carers

We are all looking forward to our Street Party on Friday 22 May when we are going to celebrate VE Day and the birth of the royal princess, Charlotte. Fingers crossed the sun will shine for us.

The visit to Drayton Manor Park and the Sensory Fairground/Interplay Theatre Company will also be enjoyed by pupils and staff later this term.

Thank you for completing the parent/carers' questionnaire, I have included a summary of your and the pupils' responses. Any suggestions, alongside those from pupils, are taken very seriously to continue to improve the school.

Parent View is an online questionnaire that allows parents and carers to give their views on their child's school at any time of the year.

Parent View asks for your opinion on 12 aspects of your child's school, from the quality of teaching, to dealing with bullying and poor behaviour. Ofsted will use the information you provide when making decisions about which schools to inspect and when.

If you would like to comment, please visit www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk in order to add your opinions.

Ofsted will monitor the results for each school, the findings will form one element of the risk assessment Ofsted undertakes to inform its visit schedule. They will also be part of the information that inspectors consider in preparation for any routine school inspection.

It would really help the school if you could place your comments on the site as if we are inspected it would be useful to have this information available for the team.

If you need internet access to put your comments on the site this can be provided at the school if you phone Trish to arrange an appropriate time.

Lynn Slinger
Headteacher

Teachers:

We have recruited 2 high quality teachers for September, Mayuri Patel and Sian Wooldridge. Both have worked in the school before and I am sure they will settle in very quickly and enjoy their new roles. We welcome Sam Woodward and Gemma Lockwood back who have both returned from maternity leave

Clothing

As a result of a parents/carers' survey the decision was taken not to have a school uniform.

Please could you make sure your son or daughter wears appropriate clothing for school.

- **Clothing needs to be safe eg no dangly earrings or no studs in clothing and appropriate eg no very short skirts or low tops for girls. For PE please continue to send in suitable clothing and footwear so a range of physical activities can take place safely.**

It would also be helpful for us to identify clothing left behind if you could put you son or daughter's name on the labels.



Preparing pupils for life in modern Britain:

In the light of recent national events and the extreme views that can influence children and young people, this is particularly important at the moment. Obviously in a special school, as many of our pupils are vulnerable, this has always had a high priority.

We teach shared values and help pupils understand their fellow pupils, celebrating their differences and being tolerant of each other. We try to make them feel they belong within the school and wider community and treat them fairly. We have high expectations of them, whatever their ability and background. We do not tolerate racism and harassment and really appreciate the support you give us if any difficulties arise.

If you feel there is any more we can do in these areas we are always open to suggestions.

Divorced or separated?

If there is enough interest we will run a one-off, free 3 hour session titled 'Raising Happy Children/Staying Connected' which will give you the opportunity to discuss the implications for children of what happens when their parents are no longer together. Please complete and return the attached slip if you are interested in this and tell us what time of day is most convenient for you.

Free School Meals:

If you, your son or daughter are in receipt of certain benefits your child could be eligible for Free School Meals. I have attached a leaflet for you to read and encourage you to make contact with the School Food Support Team who will be able to tell you immediately if your son/daughter is eligible to receive Free School Meals.

If your child falls into the Universal Infant Free School Meals category but you are in receipt of the appropriate benefits you should also apply for Free School Meals.

For every pupil eligible for Free School Meals the school receives Pupil Premium funding from the government to provide additional support for your child.

Parents/Carers' Meetings

The dates for forthcoming meetings are:

Tuesday 2 June at Forest Way

Tuesday 7 July for an end of term meal at The Copt Oak, Whitwick Road, Markfield, Leicestershire LE67 9QB

If there is any training you would like us to provide please let Nicola in the office know.

PE and Sport

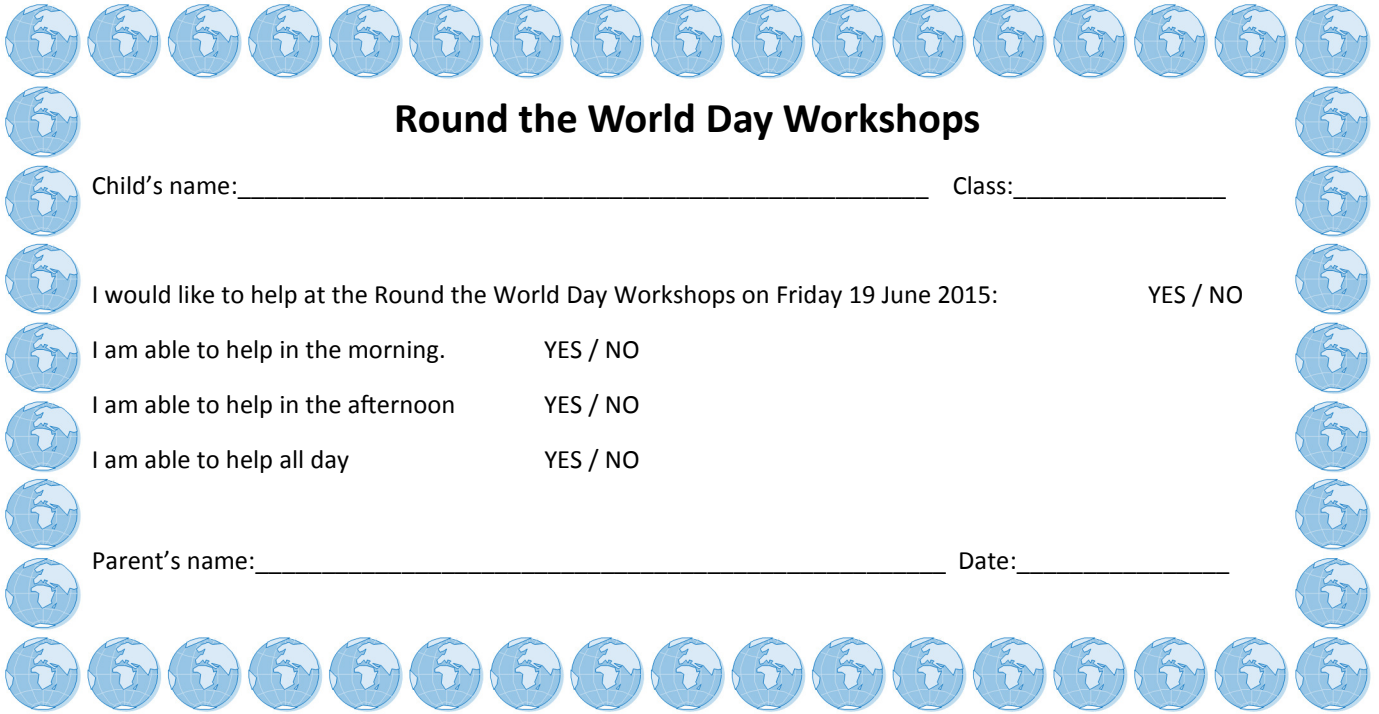
Forest Way pupils continue to be very successful in competitions.

- ◇ The Leicestershire Spring Games Event in Loughborough was very successfully attended by numerous Forest Way Teams. Our Key Stage 3 / 4 basketball team came joint first with Ellesmere College, which is a fantastic achievement in their first season. Four mixed boccia teams participated from Key Stages 3 and 4 and they won a silver medal, a bronze medal and the prestigious 'Spirit of the Games' award between them.
- ◇ Two pupils were selected to compete in the Leicestershire and Rutland Little Diamonds' Team in an athletics event at Market Harborough .
- ◇ A group of pupils recently won 7 gold, 3 silver and 1 bronze medal in the Regional and County Outdoor Athletics Championships and 9 have been selected to compete in the National Event later in the year.
- ◇ Staff and students have benefitted from working with specialist coaches which have included cricket, basketball and sports leaders' modules.

Well done to them all.

Diary Dates

Friday 22 May	Lunchtime Street Party for all the school
Monday 25—Friday 29 May	Half term holiday
Tuesday 2 June	1.30 p.m. Parents/Carers' meeting at school
Wednesday 10 June	Kids Out to Drayton Manor Park and Sensory Fairground/ Interplay Theatre Company in school
Friday 19 June	Round the World Day Workshops—all help welcome
Monday 22 to Thursday 25 June	Oily Cart Theatre in school
Thursday 2 July	Some pupils to Primary Athletics
Thursday 2 July	6.30—8.30 p.m. Leavers' Celebration and Disco
Monday 6 to Friday 10 July	Activities Week Monday 6 —Post 16 Prom Wednesday 8 —1.45 p.m. Sports Day - this will not be rearranged if the weather is wet Thursday 9 —Sports Awards' Assembly
Tuesday 7 July	12.00 Parents/Carers' end of term meal at The Copt Oak, LE67 9QB
Friday 10 July	School closes for Summer holiday
Tuesday 1 September	Autumn Term starts
Friday 16 to Friday 23 October	Half term holiday (6 school days) - a chance to book a cheaper holiday!
Friday 18 December	Break up for Christmas
Tuesday 5 January 2016	School opens for Spring term



Round the World Day Workshops

Child's name: _____ Class: _____

I would like to help at the Round the World Day Workshops on Friday 19 June 2015: YES / NO

I am able to help in the morning. YES / NO

I am able to help in the afternoon YES / NO

I am able to help all day YES / NO

Parent's name: _____ Date: _____

Raising Happy Children / Staying Connected

Child's name: _____

I / We would be interested in attending a one off free 3 hour session covering the above. YES / NO

The best time of day for me/us would be:

Morning

Afternoon

Any time

Signed by the person with legal responsibility for the above young person

Date

Parents/Carers' Meeting

Child's name _____

I/We will be attending the Parents/Carers' meeting at Forest Way on Tuesday 2nd June 2015 YES / NO

I/We will be attending the Parents/Carers' meeting at The Copt Oak on Tuesday 7 July 2015 YES / NO

Parents name (please print)

Date