

4<sup>th</sup> May 2010

Dear Parents

I am now in a position to let you know about classes for the next academic year. The governors have set the budget and are delighted that the school is in a good position financially, so we are able to maintain 8 classes. The political situation, as I write, is unknown, but the general opinion is that schools, under any Government, will not be as well funded in the future. Mrs West will sadly be retiring in July and we are delighted that Mr Perry is very excited about teaching amber class. Mrs West will still be coming into school to do some supply teaching and extra mathematical support. The Classes for 2010/11 will be:

Blue class (Foundation Stage) -	Mrs Symonds and Mrs Fricker,
Amber class (current blue class - year 1) -	Mr Perry and Miss Fricker,
Yellow class (current amber class - year 2) -	Mrs Bundy and Mrs Whitmore,
Silver Class (current yellow class - year 2/3) -	Mr Marshall and Mrs Harrison,
Gold class (current silver class - year 3) -	Miss Humphries and Mrs Young,
Green class (current gold class - year 4) -	Mrs Loxton and Mrs Treby,
Red class (current green class - year 5) -	Mrs Shannon and Mrs Norris, and
Purple class (current red class - year 6) -	Mrs Taylor, Mrs Guy and Mrs Tealey.

If you would like to discuss these arrangements please do pop in and see me or your class teacher.

There were only 4 cases of headlice detected during our checks – thank you so much for keeping a ‘watchful eye’.

Clubs start this week. Unfortunately Shane is away this week so year 3/4 and year 5/6 tennis club will start next week. We have spaces in the following clubs:

Woodwork,  
Badminton,  
Beading,  
Year 3/4 tennis,  
Year 6 Art Award,  
Football, and  
Carnival.

Please can I remind parents that the play equipment on our grassy area is for Mere School pupils only DURING SCHOOL TIME. I would be grateful if you could ensure that toddlers or children after school do not go on it. We would also ask that scooters/bikes etc that come into our school grounds are pushed and not ridden. We had an accident in school some years ago when a cyclist rode into another child. Thank you.

Please find attached to this letter topic webs detailing what your children will be learning during this term.

We are really struggling for reading help in school at the moment – particularly in blue class. If you, or a close relative or friend, are able to give up a small amount of time each week to help we would be very grateful. Obviously we will need to CRB check any volunteers.

I understand that there were a few date errors in the last newsletter – sorry!

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June – induction day for Gillingham School,  
Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September – T D day (children do not attend school), and  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September – school starts for new academic year.

Mrs Porter and I also need to change the ‘Meet the Head Teacher and Chair of Governors’ meeting as I have to attend a meeting. This will now take place on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June at 9 am.

I would like to finish by thanking Mrs Loxton, Mrs Treby and Mr Newman for taking Green class to Braeside. These members of staff give up their free time to ensure that our children have a very special opportunity – I know that, as a teacher, organising your personal lives around these residential trips is quite a challenge. Many schools do not offer these visits now but our dedicated staff believe that it is a very valuable experience for our children. Mr Knapp, one of our governors, spent some time with green class at Braeside and he was so impressed with the activities, food, resources and opportunities that our children were given. I know, also, from talking to the children, they had a good time.

Dates for the next fortnight:

Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> May, 7.30 pm -	Friends AGM – all welcome,
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> May, 2.30 pm -	special needs support group meeting – details to follow.

With thanks.

Yours sincerely

Catriona Williamson