



From the Headmaster: Mr C. Hyde-Dunn, MA(Oxon), PGCE, MA(Ed.), NPQH

Letter to parents of boys in Reception, Year One and Year Two

Friday 3rd February 2012

Dear Parents

Pre-prep Enrichment and After School Activities

As we near the end of our third round of enrichment activities, all boys and staff have enjoyed the excitement of their chosen activity ranging from ball games, lots of creative junk modelling, clay-container creations, expert touch-typing and solving Arthur's problems in a weekly Lego challenge.

Wednesday's are now our favourite time of the week, and it is just about to get even better! Please read on!..

After half-term, in addition to the extended enrichment opportunities, we are delighted to be able to offer a wider choice of activities for Year 1 and 2 during the after school session (15:30 – 16:10). We realise that the demand for Other Half Activity places has recently been greater than the clubs provided. We have therefore put together an exciting program to offer greater choice for our Y1 and Y2 boys every day of the week.

Enrichment

The enrichment will still take place on Wednesday and follow the same format but will be extended, now running for an hour from 15:10 until 16:10, more time for all of us – Hooray!

This will have an impact on all boys in Pre-prep, including Reception, because from now on, every Wednesday, the Pre-prep day will be extended to 16:10. Arrangements can be made if a 15:30 pick-up is preferred.

The new activities being offered for after half-term are outlined below, please discuss the options with your son and help him to decide on a first and second choice of activity. Please fill in the reply slip at the end of this letter and return it to Fiona.

Reception boys - only fill in Wednesday Enrichment activity.

The enrichment activities will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis, and there is a maximum number of places for each activity, to ensure close adult supervision

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Enrichment Activities

Please check the activity is available for your son's year group:

Sport

Tag Rugby and related games for **Year One** and **Year Two**

Tag rugby is a non-contact, fast-moving game. It's safe, non-contact nature, combined with the fun and liveliness of the sport, means that tag rugby is now the RFU's official version of the game for under-7s and under-8s. Learn the skills and techniques involved in Tag rugby. Practice the drills, play as part of a team and develop attack and defending skills. Depending on the weather this could be an indoor or outdoor activity. "You can't catch me!"

Parachute and Ball Games for **Reception, Year One** and **Year Two**

How much fun can we have with a parachute? Develop co-operation and listening skills, play in a team/s and as an individual. You need a lot of energy and really good listening ears... are you ready?! Following a parachute session, you will have time to experiment with a range of different size and shape balls. How high can you throw and catch, how far can you kick and bounce?

Creative Arts

Percussion Band for **Reception, Year One** and **Year Two**

Shake, rattle and roll! Maracas, triangles, castanets, drums, triangles and wood blocks. You will get a chance to try out all of these percussion instruments. Can you keep a beat, clap a rhythm and listen to others? Then you could be part of the Pre-prep Percussion Band!

Picture Painting for **Reception, Year One** and **Year Two**

For our budding artists, a chance to be creative and develop your technique! There is a lot more to painting than slapping a brush against a piece of paper! Have a go at using different objects to paint, different types of paints, experiment with colours, try out new styles and learn new techniques. Pre-prep could have a Picasso or Van Gogh in the making!

Challenging Thinking

Hama Beads for **Reception, Year One** and **Year Two**

Be creative and develop fine motor skills by designing and making patterns using hama beads on different shaped pegboards. This is a simple creative challenge where every boy can make a unique decorative piece of art to take home. A chance to think about colour, pattern and design, then all it needs is patience and time to complete and iron!

If you have any hama beads equipment at home that we could use for this project please do bring it in, we will put it to good use!

Touch Typing for **Year One** and **Year Two**

This is an on-going activity where boys are benefiting from close adult supervision and being taught how to touch type. Sessions include increasing knowledge of the keyboard layout, learning letter positions, developing confidence and speed. You'll quickly pick it up and develop a life-long skill.

Please email with your enrichment choices as soon as possible, or for Year One and Two, return the form below to Fiona.

Year One and Two After School Activities

As previously mentioned, we are extending our provision for after school activities for Year One and Two boys between 15:30 and 16:10.

This program is purely optional, the Pre-prep teaching day still finishes at 15:35 and boys can be collected then and taken home.

The After School Club with Margie is still an option for every day, offering board games and construction activities until 18:00

However for those boys keen to participate and are prepared to commit to the other-half program, we have provided a greater daily choice, with a balance between paid activities and those run by school staff.

We have had to reshuffle some of the current activities to accommodate these additions; please do speak to Fiona or Mike if you have any questions.

The additional school run activities we will be offering are:

ASA Swimming Programme – Deirbhle and Fiona will deliver the ASA Kellogs Swimming Awards program relevant for Year One and Year Two. The specific skills will be practiced each week and the techniques taught in order to progress through the scheme and achieve the certificate and badge for the stage.

Football Club – a new initiative run by Ben Tew (Level 2 Football Coach). Specific football skills, drills and basics of the game will be taught and practiced each week.

The new After School schedule is as follows:
activity

* Indicates a charge for this

Mon	Year One Swimming with Fiona <i>ASA Award Stage Two</i>	Year Two Tennis Coaching with Tom*	Year One and Two Drama with Laura*
Tues	Year One Tennis Coaching with Tom*	Year Two Swimming with Deirbhle <i>ASA Awards Stage Four</i>	
Wed	Enrichment activities		
Thurs	Year One and Two Football with Ben	Year One and Two Art Club with Roxzan	
Fri	Year One and Two Muay Thai*	Year One and Two ICT Club with Fiona	

Please have a discussion about which activities your son would like to participate in and fill in the form below, returning it directly to Fiona (not Lynn in the Office).

This program will begin the first week after half term Monday 20th February.
If you have any questions, please do come and see either Mike or myself.

Yours sincerely

Fiona Armstrong and Mike Rees

Other Half Activities Reply Slip

Child's Name: _____

After School Club choices:

Monday: _____

Tuesday: _____

Wednesday enrichment choice: _____

Thursday: _____

Friday: _____

(please return to Fiona)