



**USEFUL DATES IN  
2012**

**24<sup>th</sup> January**

Y2 & Y6 SATs  
meeting

**1<sup>st</sup> February**

Y4/5 Samba at  
Castlebrook High  
School.

5 -a-side indoor  
Football at  
Castlebrook High  
School

**3<sup>rd</sup> February**

Y3 class assembly

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February**

Y6 to watch Oliver at  
Castlebrook High  
School

**USEFUL INFO**

**School Telephone**  
0161 766 6298

**School Fax**  
0161 796 3423

**LETTERS**

All letters will be sent  
out on a **THURSDAY** -  
please check Reading  
Book Bags

**News and Information** - Welcome back to Spring Term! On behalf of all the staff I wish you all the best for 2012.

The Department for Education published its league tables at the end of last half term. Mersey Drive came joint first out of 63 Bury Primary Schools. I have posted the web link on the school website. Mersey Drives' results have improved every year since 2008. We are one of the 265 primary schools in the whole country to score 100% in English and Maths, plus have 100% of its pupils making the expected progress in both subjects. This is a great achievement.

All the children look very smart in their uniforms and have come to school well prepared for the cold conditions. It is important that the children wear sensible, flat black school footwear so that they can have active lunch and play times.

Breakfast club is growing in size. If you would like your child to attend the price is £1:50 per child per day. Doors open at 8:00am in the community room, round the back of the school. The staff then escort the children to their classes at 8.50am.

**Mrs Ann Audin - Chair of Governors** - It is with sadness that owing to ill health Clr Ann Audin has had to resign as Chair of Governors of Mersey Drive Community Primary. Ann has served as a Governor for 26 years and cares passionately about the school and its central aim to ensure the best possible welfare and achievement of each child.

Ann has played a significant role in the school and she will be missed by all members of the school community.

On behalf of the governors, I would like to thank her for her dedication and commitment to our school. I would also like to wish her a speedy recovery. Ms Mary Whitby will be acting as chair of Governors.

**Activities and Events**

Tomorrow each class is having a maths workshop led by Explore Learning based around fun activities on problem solving and mental maths. This year we have introduced a reward system for learning tables facts. The aim is that every child should know their tables by the end of Year Four and therefore in Years Five and Six they can develop speed and apply their knowledge. Your child may have brought a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award home already!

During the last weeks of the half term each class will be going to Boz Park, to help plant a new hedge around a site where a new wild life pond is going to be made. The children will need outdoor footwear and clothing on this day. Class teachers will write to you nearer the time.

**YEAR TWO AND YEAR SIX SATs** meeting - an information meeting about the tests your child will be taking this year and how you can support them takes place on **Tuesday 24th January at 6:00pm**. There will be a crèche available for younger children.

On **Wednesday 1st February** Year 4 and 5 (Eden) are going to be performing a Samba piece at the first Castlebrook High School Primary Music event. Most of the schools in Whitefield are taking part. Year 4 and 5 will be performing for parents later on in the year. Judging by their practices each Monday, they will be excellent.

On Friday 3rd February Year Three will be leading their class assembly linked to their class theme.

On Monday 6th February Year Six have been invited to watch Castlebrook High School's production of Oliver. Their show takes place in the afternoon. Mrs McConkey will write to you with further details nearer the time.

School closes for half term on Thursday 9th February There will be a Treasure Chest Assembly at 9:00am - all welcome.

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**Besses Children's Centre would like to wish you all a Happy New Year!**

Skill Building Course

We would like to welcome all parents/carers/grandparents with children with disabilities or any additional needs to a five week course beginning 23/01/12 until 27/02/12. This course will cover topics such as feeding, sleeping and behaviour management. Places must be booked. All are very welcome.

Story Makers

A lovely story and simple creative session held at All Saints' Primary School every Monday morning for children up to school age. Please contact the centre for details.

Song and Dance Time

A lively song and dance session held at St Bernadette's Parish Centre every Wednesday morning for children aged 2 years to school age.

'Wake Up, Shape Up'

Come along and keep fit at our morning exercise class held at St Michael's Church Hall. Sessions are every Monday 9.30-10.30 am.

All groups and sessions are charged at £1 per family.

Telephone: 0161 766 9807

Mobile: 07876 038 755

Email: bessescc@bury.gov.uk

## CHALLENGE MATHS

### Mark's mystery

Mark has found a three-digit number. He can read the number back to front or upside down but it is always the same.

What is Mark's mystery number?

Find all the possibilities-there's more than one!

Name.....Class.....

