

Next Week's Lunch Menu

- Mon Nut roast, mash, gravy & veg Fruit salad
- Wed Make your own sandwiches Chocolate cake
- Fri Falafel, hummus & salad Baklava
(sweet filo pastries)

Look out for today's Friday Letter insert – describing an exciting educational conference to be held at the school and planned for February 2009.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon 10	3.15-4.25pm Football
Tue 11	7.00pm Open Forum
Wed 12	9.15am Winter Fair meeting in Quiet Room 3.15-4.45pm Drama Club [bring a snack] 3.30 pm Governors' meeting
Thurs 13	3.15-4.00pm Yoga Class [bring a snack]

DEC

Saturday 6th Winter Fair

Wednesday 17th End of Term Performance – 2pm & 7pm

School photos are now in the office



I first visited Lewes two years ago, after being asked to run a workshop at the Foundry Gallery with students from several Lewes schools. One group drew my interest in particular: the children and teachers from the Lewes New School were unusually engaged and curious, interacting with respect and dignity. Any town that could foster such cool kids seemed to cry out for further exploration; six months later Maja, Django and I had moved here and Django was enrolled in the New School.

For almost a decade, I've run creative-writing and -thinking workshops across the country. I try to inspire kids to work and think harder, deeper and more powerfully. I want to instill in them a sense of self-empowerment that's driven by their work. While the students I teach never fail to inspire me with their creativity and thirst for knowledge, there are times when I feel I'm swimming alone against the tide of an educational system that refuses to value creative thinking or understand the importance of fostering an individual spirit. Experiencing the LNS now as both a parent and a facilitator, I continue to be inspired by what I see happening here, because at the core of the school's ethos is a profound understanding that children are our future.

Working with the New School students this week, a week in which we've all been transfixed by the American election, I'm reminded how powerful our children's minds are – when given the chance – and what a sacred trust we have in them. Barack Obama's election win isn't just a win for America. It's a win for all of us, setting a powerful example that nothing is impossible, that even a flawed country can embrace change and reminding us to strive for more, work harder to repair the things that have been broken and invest in our future: our children.

Jared (Louche) Hendrickson (Django)

Winter Fair

A great chance for parents – old and new – to meet up and help us to make the Winter Fair magical

We'll be meeting at 9.15am on Wednesday 12 November in the Quiet Room.

Kelly (*Japhy*) & Sonia (*Martha*)

Buttons and bows.....

Before we go out shopping, and just in case you're ready to clear out stuff you never use . . . we wondered if you could find it in your hearts to donate any of the following to Room 4 for exciting arts and crafts projects.

We are looking for **zips** (recycled ones, too), **buttons** (especially interesting ones, naturally), **sewing yarn** (for sewing machines, we have 2 now!), sewing machine **needles**, **tape measures** (loads, you'd be surprised what one can do with them), **crochet hooks**, **needle threaders**, **seam rippers**, **tailor's chalk**, a good pair of **fabric scissors**, **ribbons**, **lace**, **broken necklaces**, **beads** and **jewels** of any kind.

Also any good artist quality **paper** (watercolour especially), artist **watercolour paints**, **artists' pastels** and **artists' oil pastels** would be much appreciated.

Please bring your donations to room 4 and leave them on the shelves on the side. Thank you, Joanna (*Katarina & Alissandra*)

The next curry night is planned for Friday 14th November. All LNS dads are welcome, gathering at the Elephant & Castle pub at 7.30pm and heading off at 9 to a suitable curry house. Details from Ray (Edward & Roman) on 01273 480676 or 07973 617501

Poetry in motion....

Many thanks to Jared (*Django*) for the wonderful poetry workshops enjoyed by classes 2 and 3 this week. Here's just a little taster of some of the ideas that came to us over the 3 days. You'll get to share more of what the children came up with once we've had the chance to feed them in to our end of term performance . . . watch this space!

thinking sounds like a silent still ocean
and bubbles popping

thinking sounds like nothingness
and then footsteps

thinking sounds like burning wood
and a door off the latch

thinking sounds like yellow lightning hitting the
ground
and a party to which everyone is invited

thinking sounds like every colour of the rainbow

Open Forum

The open forum is back next Tuesday [11th] at 7pm. This is our opportunity to come together and talk about whatever issues we have around life within our school community. This time we want to try using your ideas on the 'Can we talk about . . .' board (situated on the wall next to the entrance to the hall) as a way of gathering items for our open agenda in advance of the meeting. The open forum is a unique and wonderful part of our school, please post your ideas up on the board and/or come and add your voice to the meeting.