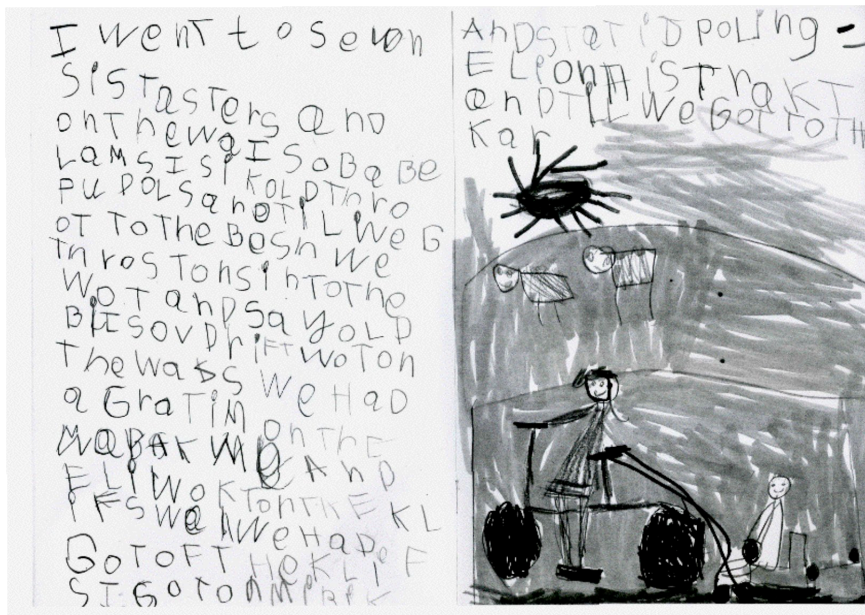


Computers

Following an assessment process over the past few months, a detailed specification, complete with costings, was drawn up to cover the IT requirements of the school. This was delivered last Friday and, through the exemplary offices of Hermione Elliott [Chair of Trustees] the full £11,000 has been found in a single gift - from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous. This will add significantly to the resources available to the children and staff at the school and we are very grateful.



Amber (Class 1)

*There was a lively discussion at Tuesday's **Open Forum** and several resolutions were agreed: a diagram to be made, complete with photos, of whom one should approach with a particular query at the school. The possibility of formalising the Open Forum into the management process. Ensuring the creative allocation of budget for resources – Lizzie mentioned the recent acquisition of a video camera; and the possibility of using the Pells for sport with the support of parents. The full text of this description of the Open Forum will be available in the office.*

Skills workout

Stephanie [*Aileen*] is running another P.E.T. Further Skills course on Tuesday mornings, 9.30-11.30, for those who couldn't make Thursdays. Starting next week [March 10th] and for the following three Tuesdays [17th, 24th and 31st]. The fee will be £20 per session and the venue 3 Harvey's Way, Lewes.

Call Stephanie on 01273 471783 if you would like a place and for further details.

All change

As you will already be aware, Charlie (*Millie & Alfie*), the current Chair of Governors, steps down at the end of this term. This position is customarily filled by an existing governor and, at the recent governors' meeting, Jane (*Wilkie*) was unanimously selected to take over from that date. Jane will therefore be vacating her current role as Chair of the Fundraising Team, so parents are invited to contact Charlie asap if they'd like to take this on. Maja (*Django*) has also kindly agreed to join Leo (*Delia*) as an additional Parent Governor.

Wrapping up

Alex (*Oscar & Daisy*) and Ray (*Edward & Roman*) require volunteers to complete the insulation work on Wednesday 11th, Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th March from 3.30 pm and during the Easter Holidays by arrangement.

We will also need help unloading our final delivery next Friday afternoon (13th). **Please Contact Ray 07973 617501 Alex 07791 070369.**

As we've had only 3 expressions of interest in Colin's pottery club and we need at least 6 weeks for a viable trial we are offering places to adults too! As the club is due to start on Monday (9th) please contact Colin today or over the weekend (474077) or at tc09@gn.apc.org. to register your interest.

Lunch Menu

- Mon** Sausage roll & salad Chocolate mousse & Melon
Wed **Class 3's'You Choose' meal**
Fri Pesto pasta with Black forest gateaux & ice cream
 roast veg & cheese

Much fun was had last week at our clothes swap. If you missed it there's another chance! Come along on Sunday 22nd March to Charlotte's (Molly, Isla & Madeline) house from 7.30pm. A fitting end to Mothers Day! Bring your clothes, a bottle of wine and a friend!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon 9	Parent consultation week [late evening Thursday] Jessie & Amanda Philosophy Course: Fru in Class 2
Tues 10	3.15-4.15 Premier Sports Multi-sports club
Wed 11	Trustees Meeting in Quiet Room 7.30 Marketing Team meeting
Fri 13	9.15am Skills Workshop Room 4 [Art Room] Bring your own sewing machine! All parents welcome

Weds 18th

OPEN MORNING

Fri 20th

2pm Music Concert with Pedja, Ollie & Stefan

Fri 27th

Dance Performance [afternoon & evening - times to be confirmed]
End of Term

EASTER HOLIDAY

Mon 20th

Back to school

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6 March 2009
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On Monday morning of this week a couple of children in Class 3 were hatching a plan for comic relief at the adults' expense. The idea of dressing parents and teachers up for the day (see the enclosed letter) and at the same time raising money for Red Nose Day has been met with a mixture of resignation and excitement! Amidst the hilarity we've been talking about the kinds of charities around the world that rely on such help to improve the lives of those less advantaged than ourselves. We've also talked about the ways in which parents work hard to raise money for the school.

On Monday afternoon I was told by the office that an email awaited my urgent attention. Dutifully I went to my computer and seconds later found myself shouting with delight at the wonderful news that a friend of the school (who wishes to remain anonymous) has donated £11,000 to fund the updating of our entire computer system. Struck by the extraordinary timing of the news I couldn't wait to get back to the class who were, of course, as thrilled as I was. The children enjoyed speculating as to who the anonymous donor could possibly be and wanted to know how exactly we would spend the money. I explained that whilst some of the equipment would (for reasons of energy efficiency) be brand new, the computers themselves would be refurbished so as to minimize our creation of waste in the world.

Suddenly the mood of a small number of children in the class seemed to have changed. These children told me that it was hard for them to feel enthusiastic about a new computer system that wasn't entirely brand new. The debate that followed among them was a fascinating exploration of our very different understandings of how our desire for new stuff in the West connects with the disadvantage increasingly experienced elsewhere in the world.

Through the week, children brought in new ideas having clearly discussed the issues at home. It has been uplifting for me to see that our generous benefactor has also helped to bring us a gift of choosing to impact positively on the world on the 364 days of the year that are not Red Nose Day.

Lizzie