

# MAPLE NEWS



Newsletter 4

19<sup>th</sup> December 2007

*Dear Parents/Carers*

*The Countdown to Christmas has been extremely busy at Maple, as always, but the children have remained very sensible and have really enjoyed all the events and activities planned for them. The Christmas shows went off very well indeed and the staff must be congratulated for working hard as a team to enable everything to run really smoothly. The Year 2 choir deserves a special mention as they have represented the school at the turning on of the Christmas lights both in Kingston Market Place, Surbiton Station and some of them also sang carols at The Coombe Nursing Home on Monday. Everyone who hears them is impressed with their enthusiasm and performance. I hope you have noticed the coverage of these events in the local newspapers.*

*We have recently received an Active Mark Award for quality PE in schools in recognition of the standards achieved in this curriculum area over the past few years. This has been very much a result of the hard work of Mrs Ogden who is PE co-ordinator at Maple and is in line with our efforts to achieve The Healthy Schools' Award next year. In the New Year various questionnaires will be drawn up and sent out to you in order to ascertain parent/pupil views. Please endeavour to complete and return these questionnaires as we will be looking carefully at your responses.*

*It was very unfortunate that the school photos were not up to the usual standard this year. We are aware of this and have arranged for our original photographer, Graham Latham, to take the class photographs in March. I have passed on my comments to this year's photographer regarding the poor quality of the photos and apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused you on the run up to Christmas.*

*Earlier this year CBeebies radio programme recorded comments from the Year 1 pupils on a variety of subjects. These voxpops will be broadcast around the 20<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of December between 2.00 - 5.00pm.*

*Please note that the free milk scheme for Nursery pupils will commence in January. We originally thought this would happen in September but our fridge has now been delivered and the scheme will be up and running next term.*

*Some of you may be aware that School Secretary, Sally Newsom, has been absent from work for a week now and this will continue for a period of 2 months. We welcome ex governor and parent, Natasha Bramble, into the school office as admin support to work with Gill Grandison to cover for Sally who will be returning to work at some stage next term.*

***School commences on Monday January 7<sup>th</sup> 2008 with 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of January school closures for staff training days.***

*Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a very festive Christmas break on behalf of all the school staff and governors. We have had a very busy productive school year so far and I am delighted at the wonderful way you continue to support us at all times. The Friends raised a fantastic amount of £4200 at the Christmas Fair and donations after the Christmas shows amounted to £106 which is being sent to The Landirani Trust. All my best wishes to you all and your families!*

*Yours Sincerely  
Liz Robinson  
Head Teacher*

***Dates for the Diary 2008***

***03.01.08.....School closed – Staff Training Day***  
***04.01.08.....School closed – Staff Training Day***  
***07.01.08.....School commences***  
***11.01.08.....Year 2 outing to The Polka Theatre***  
***16.01.08.....Dental Inspection (25 pupils selected)***  
***23.01.08.....Key Board demonstration (Chris Howard)***  
***28.01.08.....Drama Company to perform ‘Outer Space’(Yrs 1 & 2)***  
***29.01.08.....Parents Information Evening led by Literacy Advisor  
Lindsay Pickton ”Helping Your Child with Reading”***  
***11.02.08.....Pamper Evening (The Friends)***  
***13.02.08.....Parent Workshop – TBO***  
***18.02.08.....Half-term begins***