

SCHOOL NEWS

We are all busy back at school and have had a chance to reflect on some of the visits and activities before the Easter break - Little Red Hen, the Easter egg competition and The Singing Story Cloth (see cover for picture).

As part of our work in music and literacy, Duffield, Anson and Morland classes went to visit the County Music Service. The Obelon Art and Puppetry Company presented 'The Singing Story Cloth'. This was a lively, colourful puppet show made up of five short traditional tales from around the world. The children had many opportunities to participate with songs and actions. Comments from some of the children included:

We were directed up winding corridors and into a big room with a wonderful colourful fabric. There was gentle music playing when the characters introduced themselves. (Johanna – Year 3)

The first story they told us was about a mouse who loved collecting interesting stories stolen from all over the world. One day a lazy, silly sheep came along and knocked the cheeky mouse's house over- BANG! So then all the stories ran back to their own country. (Tervel – Year 3)

There was lots of colourful fabric. The puppets were small and big. The stories were from the world like China and India. (Jess - Year 1)

My favourite bit was when the silly sheep stood on the mouse's house. (Adam – Year 1)

There was a big sheet on something. It looked funny. But when they said do you want us the pull the sheet every one shouted YESSSSS. When they got it off it looked amazing. (George – Year 2)

It was wicked..... I caught a story. (Harry – Year 2)

During March Duffield, Anson and Morland Classes were very busy working on a musical and dramatic version of the well known traditional tale, **The Little Red Hen**. On Monday in the last week of term the children performed the show to the school and visiting parents and friends. Some children were quickly transformed into a Little Red Hen, a swimming duck, flapping goose, a musical pig, a playing dog, a sleepy cat and a galloping horse by the fantastic costumes made by Mrs Kingsbury. Other children read the story while the characters acted. All the children joined in the lively songs and accompanied them with actions.

Everyone was pleased at the end when the animals decided that they had learnt their lesson and the Red Hen shared her delicious homemade bread with them.

We are looking forward to more visits this term, such as exploring the delights of spring at the Arboretum and enjoying a 'weaving workshop' in school.

LESLEY CLARK

THOMLEY ACTIVITY CENTRE

MAY-DAY PLAY-DAY

Saturday 6th May 2006

11am-4pm

Everyone welcome

Free admission



- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Bouncy castle | Face painting |
| Art and craft activities | Soft-play & ball pool |
| Sensory room | Music room |
| Refreshments | Stalls (bring a cake!) |

A variety of activity workshops

Menmarsh Road, Wормinghall, HP18 9JZ

Telephone: 01844 338 380

E mail: enquiries@thomleyhall.org

Charity No. 1089224

If you run or are a member of a group, why not write a short report about it?

PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

This term saw the start of our lunchtime and afternoon sessions at Pre-School and the children all looked very excited going off to Pre-School with their lunchboxes!!

We have already made a start with our '3 little pigs' display and will be looking at all kinds of buildings this term and would like to thank F Knights of Abingdon for their kind donation of hammers and padlocks which we intend to use with the children on our 'pet log'. (See cover.)

We are still collecting the Tesco Computers for School vouchers plus any old mobile phones and inkjet cartridges. So if you, (or your workplace, friends or family) have cartridges or phones which could be recycled, please pop them along to Pre-School one morning (on the Cricket Field).

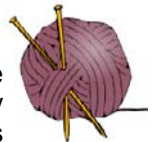
If you would like any further information on what we do at Marcham Pre-School or would like to arrange a visit please telephone 07749 245313.

NICKY SANFORD



UPDATE ON THE AFRICAN KNITTING PROJECT

32 jumpers were taken out to Limpopo Province last month, and were received with delight by the leader of the knitting project there. She has written to everyone involved:



Thank you so very much for all the beautiful jumpers that arrived with Andrew for the orphans at Hluvukani Day Care Centre. You will make so many children warm and happy when they receive your gifts - and even more important is for them to know people care about them - How very kind of you to do this for us. Bless you all. With love, Liz

I'm so looking forward to seeing their faces when we arrive with the next batch - brightly-coloured jumpers, blankets and woolly caps are already piling up - your enthusiasm and generosity are really special. (See cover for jolly jumpers.)

If anyone is going to South Africa (esp J'burg) and has room in their case for some woolies, please let me know!

Thank you for your support!

ALISON LAWRIE 391540

28 May 2006

Blue Peter and Guide Dogs are rekindling their famous relationship in a united



celebration of the 75th anniversary of the first guide dogs in the UK. This will be an exciting day out for all the family with a sponsored three-mile walk, displays and fun entertainment for all ages.

Venues: Heaton Park, Manchester; Pollok Country House and Park, Glasgow; Blaise Castle, Bristol; Gloucester Park, Basildon, Essex; Castle Ward, Belfast; and Fonmon Castle, Cardiff.

You will be able to register via the website www.guidedogs.org or by calling 0845 307 0 307 and a great fundraising information pack will be sent out to you.

A guide dog is almost equal in many ways to giving a blind man sight itself, Judith has been worth her weight in gold ...I would not be without her for a day.

Musgrave Frankland, one of the first four people to benefit from a guide dog in 1931.

