



## **The Queen's Church of England Primary School Kew**

### **Governors Newsletter**

**17<sup>th</sup> June 2011**

#### **New School Website**

The new Queen's website went live this morning: [www.queens.richmond.sch.uk](http://www.queens.richmond.sch.uk). Huge thanks to Liz Bithell (Holden) an ex Queen's parent who has worked very hard on getting the site ready to launch; to Cathy Tilley, our Business Manager; to parents Richard Hannam and Tito Saachi who have been invaluable in updating the site and to parents Sally Spires and Howard Halsall for the lovely photographs of the school.

It is a work in progress. The new site is very flexible and easy to update and we will be adding to the content over the coming weeks.

If you have comments or suggestions about the site please email them to [info@queens.richmond.sch.uk](mailto:info@queens.richmond.sch.uk).

#### **School Vision Plan**

On the site you can find details of the school's vision plan.  
<http://www.queens.richmond.sch.uk/page/?title=Queen%27s+Vision+Plan&pid=52>

In February there was a consultation with parents about what they wanted from the school and following this, an INSET day at which staff, Governors and representative of the parents met to discuss what the school's priorities should be. The ten priorities we identified are now forming the basis of the School Development Plan and will be central to all our planning for the school for the next five years. We are now very clear about what we want to achieve and are now coming up with detailed timescales, action plans and budgets to ensure that we can realise these goals for the benefit of all our children. Mrs Henchie, Miss Bentham, the Senior Leadership team and the Governors are currently working on the School Development Plan and we will publish it on the website as soon as our plans are finalised.

There are working groups looking at how best to achieve all the different goals – if you have expertise or experience in any of these areas which you would be willing to share with us, we would be delighted to hear from you.

## **Queen's 200**

The celebrations for our 200<sup>th</sup> summer are well underway and there have already been so many highlights: the visit by Princess Alexandra, the wonderful concert at The Barn Church for present and past school musicians, the Grandparents' Tea, The PSA Summer Ball.... Next week's Art Week is set to be another very memorable one for the children. All this week members of The Avenue Club have been in school sharing their quilting and embroidery skills with the children in making a '200<sup>th</sup> Quilt' and it has been lovely to see members of the wider Kew community so actively involved in the school. All the creations made in Art Week will be on display during the School's open hour – 1.30 – 2.30 as part of the School Summer Fair on the 25th June. Many thanks to Mrs Stroud for co-ordinating the week and to parents Sally Spiers and Lucy Stott who have been very involved in planning Art Week.

Huge, thanks, also to the PSA who have worked so hard on all the events - Belinda Godwin, Ali Murphy and all their teams have worked tirelessly to bring the ideas to life and bring real sparkle to the school.

At our Summer Fair we are inviting back any past pupils, staff, parents and friends to celebrate our 200<sup>th</sup> and also have a look around the current school. If you know anyone who used to come to the school or has any other connection - please let them know. We are also in the early stages of setting up an Alumni group called 'Friends of Queen's (King's) and this can be reached by emailing [alumni@queens.richmond.sch.uk](mailto:alumni@queens.richmond.sch.uk)

As part of the 200<sup>th</sup> celebrations we have launched an online appeal at Just Giving. Although the appeal is open to everyone is aimed mainly at past parents and pupils and business sponsorship. We are very aware that parents are already asked for (and give) a great deal to the school. If you have ideas for businesses or individuals outside the current school body who we could approach about the appeal, please do get in touch. <http://www.justgiving.com/Queens200/>

This appeal will run only until the end of this term.

## **Parent Mail**

Thank you for all your feedback on Parent Mail. It's clear that many of you like being better informed about what is happening in the school. However, there is a balance. We don't want to bombard parents with too much information or with information which is irrelevant to them. So, our aim is to consolidate all the information from the school in to a single email sent out on a Tuesday. There may be some news – like the launch of the website – that we will want to send out on other days but our aim is to streamline the Parent Mail traffic between school and home. We hope the new website will help as it will be easier to find information about events/dates/times on the new site. In addition the site has a 'new flash' feature which pops up if there is urgent school news (e.g. school closed for snow day).

We are working with Parent Mail to change the settings on the emails you are sent to make them easier to search by subject.

Next term booking and payment for school clubs will all be on the Parent Mail website. There is a link to this site from the main page of the Queen's school website

<http://www.queens.richmond.sch.uk/page/?title=Home&pid=1>

There will be more information about [how](#) booking for school clubs will work next term in future emails.

At this time of year we are aware that parents receive a lot of information through the class rep system about plans for the school fair etc. The Class reps do a very crucial job for the school informing parents about PSA and class issues, as well as organising support. If you feel you are being swamped by information through the PSA system, please do talk to your class reps.

### **Term Dates and Revised INSET Day**

The term dates for next year are now all up on the website:

<http://www.queens.richmond.sch.uk/page/?title=Term+Dates&pid=9>

Please note that there are now two INSET days at the start of the 2011 Autumn term so that the children will be starting back at school on the 7<sup>th</sup> September. This is to give Miss Bentham and the staff time to work on planning the school year.