



Morgans Mail

☎ 01992 582162

13th February 2009

Morgans Hotline Number: 0844 412 1741 – This will provide current information about the Morgans school day and week as well as informing you of any changes to sports clubs or trips.



Dear Parents / Carers and Children,

We seem to have reached the end of a busy and eventful half term very quickly. Please remember to put return slips in the box in Queens reception area if you did not receive a test text or email from Parent Mail. Hopefully the weather will be kind enough to let us all to get out and about over half term. If the weather is grim, perhaps you could have fun practising your knowledge and skills on the maths website recommended last week.

Have a great half term...

Sue Dutt

Maths Website Reminder

<http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/>

School Council

Last week's Morgans Mail challenged the school council to contribute what they have been up to. Well here they are...

Hello we are the children's council, we are here to give you a sneak preview on what's going to happen, on the 4th of March. As you know team super school is coming to Morgans. We (the Children's council) are going to put on a fun filled day. More will be revealed after half term!!!!



Team Super School!!!

Morgans had an exciting visitor on Wednesday - Mr Todd Bennet, a former indoor 400m World Record Holder, delivered an assembly outlining a special day in store for our children on the 4th March. The whole school will take part in a sponsored exercise challenge and have the opportunity to have their photograph taken with Beijing Olympic triple jumper, Larry Achike (whose current pb stands at 17.3m!). The money raised will go to school funds and some to helping fund the training of young British athletes for 2012. Any monies raised will be greatly appreciated – thanks.



SOWING THE SEED...

Mr Sadler's green fingered gardeners would welcome the donation of any bulbs or seeds to plant. Apparently the weather will eventually become warmer and any donations can then be enjoyed by us all!!!



A Brief Request...



A request for briefs actually (and other underwear, leggings, trousers and socks please). Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 would appreciate the donation of any clean ones appropriately sized to cope with any mishaps. Please note – Morgans colours are not compulsory!

Thank you.

Term Dates 2009-10

Autumn Term 2009

Wednesday 2nd September - In Service Training Day
Thursday 3rd September - In Service Training Day
Friday 4th September - In Service Training Day
Monday 7th September - Children return to school
Friday 18th December - Term ends
(26th – 30th October - Half Term)

Spring Term 2010

Monday 4th January - In Service Training Day
Tuesday 5th January - Children return to school
Thursday 1st April - Term ends
(15th - 19th February - Half Term)

Summer Term 2010

Monday 19th April - Children return to school
Monday 7th June - In Service Training Day
Thursday 22nd July - Term ends
Friday 23rd July - Occasional Day's holiday
(31st May - 4th June - Half Term)

These can also be found on the school website.

Chess

For the fourth year in a row the school is taking part in the British Schools Land Chess Challenge. This starts with local competitions within schools and graduates through area finals (Mega-finals) and semi-finals (Giga-finals) to the national final (Tera-final). The competition attracts around 74,000 children from 2,200 schools nationally!

This year 91 children have entered the school tournaments, one for boys (49) and one for girls (42). Although the number of boys entered is down on last year, it is pleasing to note that this is the largest number of girls who have entered the competition.

The matches are played at lunch time. Each child plays 7 matches, with a match winner awarded 3 points, a loser 1 point and a draw is worth 2 points to each player. From the second round onwards matches are organised between children with the same number of points, where possible. This allows for an even competition – those doing well competing against each other whilst those whose chess skills are not as well developed playing against children of a similar standard.

Every player who reaches 3 points is awarded a badge, with gold stickers being added to the badge for every further 3 points gained. Also players who reach 11 points select a mascot and those with 15 points are awarded a diary and jotter.

Those players who gain 17 points or more plus those who gain the highest points in each year group (boys and girls) even if they have not attained this total, will be given the opportunity to attend the 2009 Mega-final.

It is a very positive way for children to develop their chess playing skills.

This week the children are playing outstanding matches from the first four rounds, delays having been caused by illness and bad weather.

In the boys tournament, Liam Boles (Y6) and William Crowther (Y6) have a maximum 12 points and could be joined by either Stanley Voss (Y6) or Graham Naden (Y6) if one of them wins their unfinished match. There are eight players on 10 points, Thomas Clarke, Patrick Tarry, Joshua Plume, Andrew Burr and Sam Nicholls from Y6 along with Y5 front runner Gabriel Hart, Y4's Alex Washbourne and a second Tarry, Dan, from Y3. I am sure that Patrick will be keen to make sure that he ends the tournament with more points than his younger brother! Harrison Knott could join Gabriel as joint Year 5 leader if he wins his outstanding match.

Most of the outstanding matches are in the girls' tournament. So whilst Natalie Harris (Y6) on 11 points leads Amy Tridgell (Y6), Holly Yorke (Y5) and Fiona Markay (Y4), all with 10 points, if Abbie Bensted (Y6) wins her unfinished match she will leapfrog them all with 12 points. More girls could move to 10 points or join the 6 girls, Francesca Hodges (Y6), Hannah Banks (Y6), Ellen Denison (Y4), Amy Matthews (Y4) and Charlotte Mumby (Y4) and Kitty Voss (Y4) on 9 points depending on the results of the outstanding matches. Gabriella Lawson with 7 points leads the small Year 3 entry.

There will be some fiercely fought battles over the remaining three rounds to decide the Year group and overall winners.

Mr. Cordingley

Many thanks to Morgans own Kasparov for his time and detailed report.

See the website for future updates and photos



Family Learning Day

On Tuesday Morgans hosted their third family learning day in conjunction with Hertfordshire Family Learning, Hertford library and the archive department of County Hall. Year 4 parents joined us in making story shields to reflect evidence from a sixteenth century portrait. A super day was had by all in attendance – thank you so much to those parents who were able to join us for the day.



History Brought to Life

This is a review about our exciting lesson with Mr Saunders showing us different artefacts from World War 2 which links to the topic 'Britain since 1930' we are studying in Year Six.

Firstly he took us through all the rules: most importantly we had to have fun!

Secondly he showed us old food and amazingly Rolo's were around in the war as well as tomato soup, beans, condensed milk and Kit Kat for a treat.

Next Edward and Liam volunteered to become soldiers, Liam was a British RAF pilot and Edward was a German Officer. First we put our uniform on, the German uniform was more comfortable than the British uniform. Then we got a pack which had a knife, a bottle, a club and a note pack. We then were given a pop gun each but they were rubbish and Edward's didn't work so he was given a semi automatic gun! Liam complained and got a fully automatic gun but they didn't actually fire but it was great getting to hold one.

Eventually everyone got a uniform and a gun. Seth got a machine gun and a SS uniform but he said he was a British spy.

Then we got to put on a gas mask and a helmet. A siren sounded which was very loud. We saw how a gas detector works - if there are traces of gas around the paper changes to a pink colour and if you found gas you would use the siren to warn people of the gas.

We would like to say a big thank you to Mr Saunders for sharing his wonderful artefacts with us and teaching us so much. We had a brilliant time!

By Liam, Edward and Seth.