



Morgans Mail



☎ 01992 582162

SG13 8DR

8th May 2009

Morgans Hotline Number: 0844 412 1741

Dear Parents / Carers and Children,

We are almost at the end of a short but busy week. I hope you all enjoyed the long weekend despite the usual disappointing Bank Holiday Monday weather.

I am very proud of the individual and collective talents of Morgans pupils. At present Abbie Bensted in Y6 and Becky Crowther, Y5 continue to excel at chess; whilst Patrick Tarry and Sophie Thomson, both in Y6 will be swimming for Hertfordshire next week.

It is SATs week for Y6 next week so please remember to be very quiet if you are anywhere near where they are working. The children have studied hard and taken good advice from their teachers. I would like to wish them all the best of luck and skill; we can ask no more of them than that they do their best. This will be the last year for the Science test, and perhaps the same for English and Maths. I will let you know when I have more information.

The finances of the school and also of families at Morgans are experiencing great challenges due to the credit crunch. I have had to cancel a school journey for the first time since I have been a Headteacher, which is depressing.

Finally, I have a favour to ask of you all - please would you complete our annual questionnaire that will be sent home next week. In the past there has been a poor return which means that many of your views are not represented.

Kind regards

Sue Dutt

Humanities Week Ahoy

An exciting week lies ahead 8th-12th June. We have a number of resources for the five continents we are covering: Africa, Asia, Europe (non-UK), Americas and Australasia. Should you have any artefacts or other resources from one of these areas, we'd love to borrow them for the week. The Friday should prove particularly memorable, since as well as the Morgans Mile, a barbeque is also planned for Australasia. Many thanks to Mr Scarisbrick for organising what will prove a creative and memorable week. Please see him with any resources. Thanks.

We Are Sailing, We Are Sailing...

Last week our Year 5 sailors took to the water and began to get to grips with their boats in good sailing conditions. Apparently this week the wind was a little unpredictable and really tested their sailing skills. Mr Sadler assures me Mrs Hanham enjoyed the conditions 'tree'mendously.



The mood was buoyant at the Mariners' Base



Chess Grand Masters



Very well done to William Crowther, Graham Naden, Alex Washburne, Louise Lowy, Josh Hill and Ellen Denison for attending the County Chess Megafinal last weekend. Particularly well done to Abbie Bensted and Becky Crowther who emerged Under 11 and Under 10 champions respectively. They will go on to represent the county in the National Gigafinals later in the year. Great stuff Grand Masters!!!

Nobody Expects The Morgans Questionnaire...

Well you do now! We value your opinions about Morgans hugely and wish to seek them once more. Next week each child will bring home a brief questionnaire about various aspects of the school. The questions have been carefully thought out and should provide us with useful information to ensure Morgans is the best it can be for your children. There are 423 pupils at Morgans and last year there were very few returns. If you do not return your views we do not find them out. The Morgans Children's Council and some of Year 5 will be collecting completed questionnaires during the final week of the half term. Your child will have to keep their eyes (and ears!) peeled each morning before school to spot (and try to catch!) the Mobile Morgans Mailbox. They're not the Spanish Inquisition – they're far more scary!!!

Oops!

The Year 4 Cuffley Camp meeting starts at 7:00 Tuesday 12th May and not as was stated last week.

The Big Squeeze

Morgans has always been proud of the wide range of trips it runs. The Foundation stage trip to Hayes Hill Farm was in serious danger of being cancelled last week, but was saved by a generous anonymous donation, for which we are extremely grateful.

It is with regret that we have had to cancel the Year 6 trip to the Bhaktivedanta Manor due to a shortfall in payments. Refunds will be issued shortly.

Currently, the Year 4 and 5 trips to the Watford Mosque and Sikh Gurdwara will be cancelled unless we receive the outstanding payments on both trips by 9am Monday 11th May.

The school is acutely aware of the current difficult financial climate and is acting accordingly, since we are also feeling the pinch. Our financial secretary is having to spend increasing hours chasing missed payment deadlines. This is taking up too much of her valuable time, which she needs for other duties. It seems that in future the school will have to cancel more class trips if insufficient contributions are made by the deadline date set. Obviously any payments made for cancelled trips will be refunded.

We appreciate that many of you are being affected by the credit crunch and we want to know how you feel about school trips. The questionnaire mentioned to the left gives you the opportunity to let us know.

It All Went Swimmingly!!!

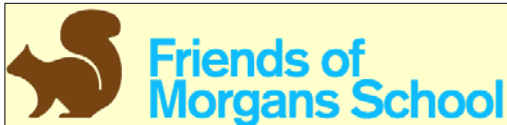
Well done to Patrick Tarry and Sophie Thomson for representing East Hertfordshire in the County Swimming Gala. They both swam strongly to finish 2nd in each of their two events. Their contributions meant East Herts won. Both will advance to the East of England Gala on the 15th May, representing Hertfordshire. Fabulous effort – all at Morgans wish you luck.

Found

An expensive mobile phone accessory was handed in this week. If you have lost such an item, please see Mrs Gunn in the office to be reunited with it.

Bootilicious!!!

The FOMs are running a car boot sale on Sunday 17th May from 9:00-12:00 at the school. There will no doubt be plenty to barter and haggle over and refreshments will be available for the hopefully warm weather! To book a pitch please see the office with your £10 fee. If you are planning a pitch the gate will be open at 8:00 to allow you to set up.



Calling All Eco-Warriors...



The Morgans lean, mean, green machine has really rumbled into action, and with Ms. Bull driving, means business! Several editions ago we mentioned how the school was set a target based on its size. Of our 46,010 'leaf' target Morgans has now earned 13,743 'leaves', meaning we are over a quarter of the way there!

The staff will be showing the website to the children over the next few weeks and really encouraging them to complete exciting activities and tasks in exchange for 'leaves' for the school. If all Morgans children complete only one online activity, the results collectively will be impressive. We obviously hope they will be so enthralled they won't be able to stop! A link will also be added to the 'Links' tab on the schools website, meaning your child can regularly visit the site with ease. Please have a go yourself and donate any 'leaves' to our great green cause. Thank you to Ms. Bull for her continued efforts.

Here is the link to the site again.

<http://www.generationgreen.co.uk/>

Morgans Magnificents

Last week Year 4 treated the school to Haiku and rhyming couplet compilation poems.



We will end this week's Morgans Mail with this generally uplifting poem by Emily Veryard:

'Summer Days'

I put on watery sun cream,
Sit in lovely sunbeam.

Put out paddling pool,
That is nice and cool.

Slip on swim suit,
One that is very cute.

I'll have a dip,
Oh look an apple pip.

It's starting to get grim,
So I think I'll go in.

Could Emily give first female
Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy a
run for her money?