



# Morgans Mail



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17<sup>th</sup> July 2009

Morgans Hotline Number: 0844 412 1741

## Dear Parents / Carers and Children,

We are finally at the end of a very productive and enjoyable school year which was busy at the start and continued to gather momentum. Having returned from sailing with Year 5s at Barton Turf, I now have to finish all of my outstanding tasks before Friday.

I was very proud of the children and the staff team who put on a super show for Open Evening on Tuesday. Presentations and work in the classrooms were of a very high standard. Thank you to everyone who took the time and trouble to come along, I am sure that you found it an enjoyable experience. For those of you who were unable to make it there is a photograph of work from each classroom to give you a flavour of what you have missed.

"What a Night!" The Year 6 leavers' play was exceptionally good apart from the toe curlingly bad jokes, which added to the delight and enjoyment of the audience and cast. Everyone was rightly full of praise for our young performers. Heartfelt thanks to colleagues who made the play possible by helping the children to shine.

Understandably, this particular year group have a special place in my heart as they started in Reception as I joined the school as Headteacher seven years ago. Time flies!

Farewell and thank you to Mr Gascoine, a TA in years 3 & 4, Mrs Perks & Mrs Shields, who covered for Mrs Sales, who is on maternity leave. Best wishes to Miss Russell who starts her maternity leave from September. Miss Daniels leaves us to work at Howe Dell School and Miss Brasher who is on her travels again before returning to Australia.

I hope you enjoy the summer holiday immensely, whatever you get up to and wherever it may take you (and avoid the swine flu along the way!). Quality family time is what life is all about and the staff are looking forward to some well deserved rest and recuperation with their loved ones. We look forward to welcoming you back safe and well after the holiday on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September. An exciting year lies ahead for all at Morgans, with some major developments already planned. Have a great summer break.

Best wishes and kind regards

*Sue Dutt*

## Barton Brigade Brave the Elements...

Neptune tried his best and threw ominous clouds, storms and sudden downpours our way throughout the week. Nothing however could dampen the Morgans spirit and our intrepid sailors remained upbeat and optimistic, as they improved their raft building and sailing skills. The pictures show how much they enjoyed themselves. Thank you once more to all adults who made the week such a success.



# Thank You for the Vouchers



A fantastic 48,000 Tesco vouchers were collected this year. When added to the 9,000 'banked' the previous year, this has meant we have been able to order the following exciting items through the scheme: A laptop, a portable data projector, and a huge amount of PE and playground equipment, to ensure break times are exciting and active. These will benefit all children in the school. Just wait until you see how exciting assemblies will become!!! Thank you.

## Blooming Marvellous

Mr Sadler and his flowerpot men and women did indeed bow out in style last week. They came second out of the 18 schools represented in the 'Hertford in Bloom' gardening competition for 'Best School Garden,' beaten only by Duncombe School. The children have worked incredibly hard this year, have shown real commitment, and have set a very high standard for next year. The presentation is on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September outside Castle Hall by the marquee on the lawn at 2:30, should any of the gardening club wish to attend.



## MP3 Mayhem...

Do you still listen to the fantastic CD the children recorded at school last year? Another huge thank you to everyone who bought one (or more!) CDs. After much consideration, we have now bought two MP3 recorders with the commission. These will be used to record any special songs, pieces of music or compositions the children perform. They can then be uploaded to the computers where they can be listened to and enjoyed! They may even get put on our school numu page for uploading music on the internet - more details of this to follow next year!

## Parent Council Update

On our recent questionnaire, a number of parents requested a means of having their views represented more regularly. It looks like there may be rather more cakes and biscuits to go round than anticipated, unless more parents volunteer to be class representatives on the proposed Parent Council. At the time of writing only two classes have had parents volunteer for this role. Given there are 16 classes in the school, this is disappointing. The role would only involve one meeting each half term and we would like this initiative to be a success. We see it as an important opportunity to work in partnership and further develop ideas and initiatives throughout the school to benefit all of our children. Much like the questionnaire, which has already help guide future school improvement, without your support your views will not be represented. If any other parents wish to represent their child's class, please speak or write to Mrs Dutt as soon as possible. Thank you.

## Governor Greetings 2...

### Clare Gittings, LEA Governor.

I live locally and was originally a primary teacher. I now run the primary school programme at the National Portrait Gallery, London, which teaches around fifteen thousand children annually. I have chaired the Curriculum Committee at Morgans for ten years.

### Joan Lee, LEA Governor.

I was appointed by the Local Education Authority and have been on the Governing Body for six years. I am part of the Finance Committee and the Personnel Committee and I am the link governor for art.



## Remission of Music Fees

The Hertfordshire Music Service runs a discretionary scheme which pays for children's music lessons in full or in part. If families are in receipt of certain benefits, children being looked after by someone other than their parents, child carers or children with special needs they may qualify for the free or discounted music lessons.

**Please call 01438 844556 for more details.**

**The deadline for applications for music lesson remission of fees in the Autumn term is 11<sup>th</sup> September 2009.**

## Oh What A Knight!

Year 6 bowed (and curtsied!) out in style this week after a super performance of "Oh what a knight!" We've known all year that we have a few jesters amongst them, though fair maidens, brave knights and fashion designers Calvin and Klein also featured amongst others, as the children entertained and sung their way through. Some of the acting and singing was exceptional. Well done to all involved and Miss Russell, Mr Scarisbrick and Mrs Coxon for marshalling the troops so well at this late stage.



## Jousting Japes

Year 6 were not the only Medieval marvels this term and, not to be outdone, whilst half of the year group were in Barton, the other half of the year spent a creative and lively week on all matters Tudor. They sang Tudor songs, made shields, created coats of arms (and risked arms and legs!) when they took part in their own jousting tournament!!!



## Morgans Magnificents

Last week's Morgans Magnificents were Year 4, who hogged the limelight with their Hedgehog Shelters. They entertained and educated the rest of the school with various facts about the mystical lives of our prickly friends and explained the reasoning for their well designed hedgehog accommodation.



## Year 6 Tramp Off Into The Sunset!!!

Year 6 had a super evening on Thursday at the traditional 'Tramps Supper.' They dressed up for the occasion, cooked their own food and had a great time hosing each other down with water at the end.



### ParentMail Blitz...

I hope you have enjoyed reading the Morgans Mail over the last two terms as much as I largely enjoy compiling it! Should you know of a friend who still does not receive the Morgans Mail via ParentMail successfully each week, please ask them to speak to their child's class teacher or me so we can rectify this together. I am more than happy to show you how to register. For those families who do not have internet access at home, we will be making provision for checking ParentMail in our new entrance porch to enable equal access for all. We will still send paper copies of certain letters, though hope to use ParentMail as our main means of regular communication.

Many thanks Paul Miller.

# A Grand Opening...

For those of you who were unable to attend this week's Open Evening and meet your child's teacher for next year, here are a few of the highlights you missed. For those who did attend, enjoy once more...

