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Friday 25th September 2009

Dear Parents,

School routines are becoming established and this week has been calmer for this reason. I hope you are finding that life at home is also starting to organise itself and a pattern is beginning to appear.

After School Activities are well underway and I am thrilled that we have been able to offer such a variety of experiences to the older children in the Primary School. On top of clubs offered afterschool Mrs. Trussell is also running netball for girls in Y4 ,5 and 6 at lunchtimes (details below in PE news section of the email). Please do remind your daughter of this great opportunity. Ms. Rickards will be running practice sessions for our swimming team members at lunchtime starting next week. Craze of the Week has taken off at lunchtimes on the field. This week the 'Craze' was parachute games and lots of fun was had by all. Next week's craze will be ankle skipping. Please feel free to teach your children any games you know so that they can share them with others during their lunch time.

I have had a number of questions about the homework policy for Primary at Warwick Academy. This information is on the school website – however I have summarised some of the information below for you.

Also in this email, information on end of day times for Prize Giving on the 22nd October. Please do make a note so that you can make arrangements for the collection of your child/children on this day.

Head Boy and Head Girl and their deputies were announced this week. Our congratulations go to Kevin Minors (Head Boy) Ryan Eve (Deputy Head Boy), Brittany Hassell (Head Girl) and Ashley Berry (Deputy Head Girl). I would also like to repeat what I said in an earlier email about the quality of the candidates for these posts. I know there were many disappointed applicants but all of them should feel very proud of themselves. It really was a difficult decision to make. I am hoping to work with the Heads and Deputies to look at ways of increasing the opportunities for positive links between our older pupils and primary age children.

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Maria Woods

HOMEWORK IN THE PRIMARY DEPARTMENT

Warwick basis its policy on the amount of time your child should spend on their homework each evening. The information below only focuses on time. All other information on homework is to be found on the website under 'Primary'. I hope this is useful.

FREQUENCY AND TIMING OF HOMEWORK

Y 1: 10 minutes of daily reading

Y 2: One to two 10 minute assignments per week (numeracy and literacy) (Easter & Summer terms only)
10 minutes of daily reading

Y 3: Two 20 minute assignments per week (numeracy, literacy, spelling)
15 minutes of daily reading

Y 4: Three 30 minute assignments per week (numeracy, literacy, spelling, tables, occasional other subjects)
15 minutes of daily reading

Y 5: Four 30 minute assignments per week (emphasis on numeracy and literacy including spelling, but also ranging widely over the curriculum)
20 minutes daily reading

Y 6: Four 30 – 40 minute assignments per week (emphasis on numeracy and literacy including spelling, but also ranging widely over the curriculum)
At least 20 minutes daily reading

On occasions your child may receive work that should have been completed in class. This work will be marked in the homework diary to indicate to you that this work has been sent home because your child's teacher believes that your son/daughter should have been able to complete it in class time but did not (maybe they spent time chatting and not working for example).

If you find that your child is having to spend significantly more time on homework than the homework policy indicates please do feel free to talk to the teacher about this.

Some teachers are also sending home 'extra' work that children can do if they find the homework is not enough for them. This is 'extra' so please do not feel compelled to do it, your child will not be penalised if they do not complete these types of tasks.

Please also remember that Warwick Academy considers education of the 'whole child' to be vital. Your child should have time each day to relax and / or take part in extracurricular activities.

For information on how to cope with homework issues please feel free to take a look at http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/32585821/ns/today-parenting_and_family/

DEADLINES COMING UP:

Friday 3rd October – deadline for applications for Year 1 2010 entry.

SCHOOL EVENTS COMING UP:

Open House for Prospective Year 1s 2009/10 entry– Tuesday 29th September 18:00 – 19:30

Tours of School for Prospective Year 1s 2009/10 entry– Wednesday 30th September

Grub Day to support *Médecins sans Frontières* - **Thursday 1st October.**

On this day children may come in wearing non uniform clothes. We are choosing this day to do this as on the Friday it is out Upper Primary Inter-house Swimming Competition.

Upper Primary Inter-house Swimming Competition – Friday 2nd October – in the afternoon

More information will follow closer to the time of the event. In the event of rain, the competition will be moved to October 9th. Parents are invited to come along to support their child/children at this event.

His Grace, Dr John Sentamu, The Archbishop of York visits Warwick Academy – Monday 5th October

WAPTA BINGO NIGHT - Friday 16th October – 6pm

This is a fun family event – keep this date free and keep an eye out for more information on how to sign up.

Prize Giving – Earlier Dismissal times – October 22nd

Dismissal – Lower Primary (Y1,2,3) 13:45 Upper Primary (Y4,5,6) 14:00 (senior students will be released at 14:10)

EXTERNAL EVENTS COMING UP:

PARTNERRE Women's 5K run or walk – Sunday 4th October

This annual event is happening at the Botanical Gardens at 08:30. For more information and to register to take part go to: www.partnerre5k.bm

Family Group Discipline Workshop –at The Family Center.

For families with young children ages 4 – 11. “The workshop helps parents to learn how to utilize supportive tools of discipline to raise children who are cooperative and responsible”. Every Monday Sept 28 – Oct 5th (6pm – 7.15pm) For more information phone: 232 1116

Auditions for the School for the Performing Arts Boy choir and Girl choir

This is open to boys aged 8 to 14 and girls aged 7 to 18.

Auditions are by appointment. For more information contact Paula Maguire on 704-1460 or info@performingarts.bm

Bermuda Cat Fanciers Association Cat Show – Saturday 31st October

If interested in entering your cat contact jvilleneuve@northrock.bm .

CONGRATULATIONS

Achievement and Citizenship award winners (for the last 2 weeks)

In our Tuesday Assemblies we are now presenting Citizenship and Achievement awards. The Class Teachers nominate one pupil in their class for each award.

CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

This award is given to a child that is following the Golden Rules and is showing his/her teachers that they are a good citizen.

The recipients of this award for the last two weeks were:

Joshua Vallis, Haley Cantarella, Georgia Roberts, Ella Shanahan-Guay, John Dragonetti, Jack Fitzsimmons, Hannah Fletcher, Gianna Lupporelli, Ellie Cordeiro, Tiara Simons, Conor Shanahan-Guay, Tayla Horan, Charlie Sinnott, Isaiah Dowling, Amber Simons.

Luke Watson, Ethan Sousa, Malcolm Hendrickson, Amari Trott, Hope Dragonetti, Hannah Snelling, Sage Morris, Jai Whaley, Kaelyn Burrows, Jessica Bruton, Kent Simmons, Tyson Barnett, Kumari Tannock, Kane Crichlow,

ACHEIVEMENT AWARDS

This award is given to a child that has made good progress in their work or has done particularly well in a particular subject area or on a specific task.

The recipients of this award for the last two weeks were:

Mathew Meszoly, Brandon Jones, Thomas Pye, Casandra Roberts, Tro-Ni Robinson Burgess, Kalia Anderson, William Gray, Micah Albuoy, Ashwin Sriskanthan, Paxton Wong, Ashlynnne Matthews, Alex Malpas, Liam Flannery, Isaiah Dowling..

Amber Rickards, Andrew Budge, Abigail Jones, Jack Levenson, Riley Jackson, Felix de Bruin, Marcus Brangman, Isaiah Hayward, Lizzy Madeiros, Elon Francis, Giovanni Hollis, Thomas Wilken, Andre Mussenden, Emilie Pearse,

Congratulations to all children that helped with the KBB clean- up. **Emily Howe** was pictured The Royal Gazette with her father (even though apparently the caption read "Northlands pupils lend a hand for KBB clean-up") Well done Emily.

Oh well - at least Emily made a good contribution to Keeping Bermuda Beautiful.

Congratulations also go to **Mercedes DeSilva** and **Mikayla Wilson** for their Salsa dancing performances over the summer break. They dance for Sea Breeze and they performed at Mambo Nights at The Fairmont Southampton, where they received a standing ovation and requests for an encore! They also performed at Sunday in the Park at Victoria Park, they opened for the annual Bodybuilding Show, and they performed at a Bethel Church evening function – a Youth Night. They have both had a very busy and rewarding summer by the sounds of it. Well done girls.

LEARNING ENRICHMENT NEWS

Learning Support Programme

Mrs.. Custodio will begin working with those children who need support from next week. If your child is involved in this programme then you will be informed.

LIBRARY NEWS

I have enjoyed welcoming new and returning students to the Library over the past two weeks and appreciate the opportunity of this newsletter to share the first piece of information with you.

As you may already know, Primary School children use the library with their teachers for a scheduled period once a week. During this weekly visit they are encouraged to select Library books to take home to read.

The check-out procedure for Library books is as follows:

Y1-Y2 students may borrow one item at a time for a period of one week.

Y3-Y6 students may borrow two items at a time for a period of two weeks.

Items must be returned in the orange Library basket kept in each classroom and which is used to carry books in and out of the Library. Students have been reminded to comply with this procedure so that overdue slips sent home are as accurate as possible. In particular, we discourage students from returning books directly to the shelves as this would not be reflected in the computerized Library system.

It is not the Library policy to apply fines for overdue books. However, we ask parents to replace lost or damaged items.

Should you have any question about the above, please do not hesitate to contact me at fwolffe@warwickacad.bm. In the meantime, I hope you will enjoy sharing books from our collection with your child.

PE News

Swim Team Practices

Please be aware that Ms Rickard has begun interschool swim training during lunch time. Your child will be told if they are involved in this.

Netball practice for Upper Primary Girls

Y4 & 5 girls - Monday lunch time with Mrs. Trussell

Y6 girls – Tuesday lunch time with Mrs. Trussell

The Bermuda Youth Sports Programme Fall soccer program

There are still some places on this programme. Sign-ups can be done either on-line at www.bysp.bm. If you have any questions on the program please do not hesitate to contact Sam Nusum 735 0836 (mnusum@logic.bm).