

# S.P.S.N.

## Silverhill Primary School Newsletter

14/2008/2009 (19 December 2008)



### 2008

As 2008 draws to a close I thought I would reflect on the progress and achievements made by the school. So much has happened it would be impossible to recall everything but I have tried to pick out the highlights of the year.

I started negotiation with JCB last January to secure funding for the pond and a year on we are nearly complete. A good number of people and organisations have been involved with the pond construction and the permanent fencing should be erected in the Christmas holiday. All that will be needed then will be the benches and we will be all set up for a spring and summer full of pond dipping.

The PTFA have continued to work tirelessly raising funds for the school to support the development of the Grounds for Change Project. We have now been assigned an officer from the Local Authority to work with us to create the adventure trail for the children and if everything goes to plan it should be in place by Easter 2009. I would like to thank all the members of the PTFA for their incredible efforts in organising such a range of functions as every event takes a huge amount of planning and commitment of time.

The school has been awarded International School status for the links with schools in India and South Africa and our outward looking curriculum. Pupils and staff have certainly benefited from the exchange of visits and the curriculum has been enriched and adapted to make the most of this personal global contact. We look forward to continuing to learn from each other and strengthen the links with our schools.

The school has also been awarded the ICT mark in recognition for the high quality use of ICT within the daily curriculum. Again I would like to thank Mrs White for her enthusiasm, support and professionalism in developing ICT throughout the school.

All the pupils have been given the opportunity to explore learning at first hand through a range of visits, some for the day and others as a residential visit. I know the children have thoroughly enjoyed their time away from home and I would like to thank all staff who have attended residential visits as a great deal of organising and planning goes on behind the scenes, not least how our own families are catered for while we are away!

The new academic year started with the opening of the newly refurbished block and canopy. The environment has certainly provided the children with every opportunity to learn in a fun and purposeful environment.



The children have been involved in many health initiatives such as anti bullying week, sports competitions, running their own sporting lunchtime activities and of course Mrs Lowe's lively Take Ten morning sessions.

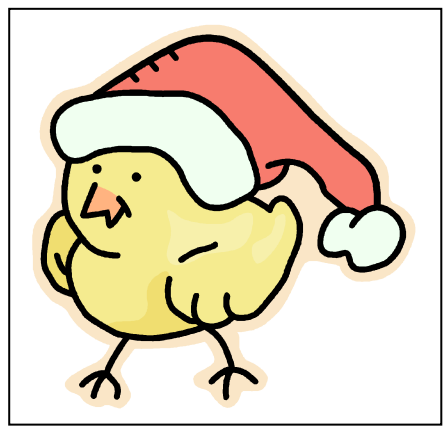
The recent visit from Ofsted has highlighted all the exciting things that are taking place at Silverhill and has recognised our skills based curriculum as outstanding. We will continue to explore exciting opportunities for the children that will engage them in learning. I will certainly be getting a few more hens and we may try to hatch a few chicks!

We consider ourselves to be so fortunate to have such strong parental support at Silverhill. I would particularly like to thank all the parents who come into school to help the children with their learning on a regular basis. It really is very much appreciated.

These are some of the highlights of the year. The children continue to be a delight to teach and their outstanding behaviour is commented upon by all who visit the school. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff (teachers, teaching assistants, office staff, lunchtime staff and cleaning staff) who work with great dedication, enthusiasm and loyalty to provide your children with the best possible learning experience and environment. I would like to thank the governors for all their help and the time that they devote to making school a better, more efficient place and yourselves for supporting the children and staff in all that they do.

On behalf of the staff and governors I wish you all a Merry Christmas and every happiness in the year ahead.

Kate Nash, Headteacher



**LOST COAT**

If your child has a Silverhill, green, reversible coat could you please check that he/she has the correct coat? There was a mix up a couple of weeks ago and one child has ended up without his coat. We are unsure of the size - it is either a size 9/10 or 11/12 – suitable for a child in class 3C. The initials **TJS** are written on the leather piece at the back of the neck. If you can help please contact either the school office or Mrs Cannon.

**KS1 NATIVITY PHOTOGRAPHS**

These are now available to view and order on-line at - [www.thisisderbyshire.co.uk/photosales](http://www.thisisderbyshire.co.uk/photosales)

At this point we are unsure if/when they will appear in the newspaper.