

# *Whittaker Moss Primary School*

## Newsletter 9

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2010

### *Book Fair Week*

#### Attendance Award

Congratulations to Class 7 for their 99.4% attendance last week. They received the weekly award in Monday's Assembly for the best attendance in school, week beginning 1<sup>st</sup> November.

#### Book Fair

We hope that you have been enjoying our Book Fair and have managed to pop in and look at the books on offer. Don't worry if you haven't made it in so far; Book Fair will run until 4pm on Friday. Children can bring money in a named envelope if they wish to come along at lunchtimes and make their purchases then.

#### School Disco

Don't forget that the PTA Disco is this **Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> November, from 6-8pm** (not 6:30-8:30pm as stated on last week's newsletter). Children can come along in any fancy dress outfits and there will be a prize for the best costumes. Come along and enjoy the music and refreshments on offer, an event for the whole family! **Please note that all children must be accompanied by an adult.**

#### Mrs Shotton's Chair

We are delighted that our very special Storyteller's Chair has arrived at Whittaker Moss. This chair is dedicated to the memory of Mavis Shotton, much loved and respected teacher here at school and greatly missed by us all. Mavis was known for her many stories and this chair is a fitting tribute to her...staff and children will enjoy sitting in her special chair and telling a few stories of their own! Thank you to our children and families for donations towards the purchase of this chair in Mavis' memory.

#### Anti-bullying week

Next week is national anti-bullying week and the children at Whittaker Moss will be getting involved in different activities to develop their understanding and awareness of this issue. Assemblies and PSHE lessons will focus on feelings and how to deal with a bullying problem or worry. On Friday, we will be holding our annual 'Wear it Blue Day' when the children can come to school wearing something blue; blue socks, blue hair bobbles, blue trousers, blue t-shirt etc. They could come all in blue or accessorise their school uniform with some blue items! Blue is the colour connected with the anti-bullying campaign. There is no charge for this dressing up event.

#### Let's Get Cooking group

Our Let's Get Cooking group in Key Stage 2 will be busy next week baking biscuits as a fund raiser for Children in Need. On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November, children will be able to buy a biscuit, biscuit recipe and biscuit cutter in a bag for 50p. Money raised will go to the Children in Need charity. If your child would like to buy a biscuit (which will come with the other items) **please send 50p in to school on the 19<sup>th</sup> November.**

## Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Just a reminder that completed shoeboxes are being collected on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November (a week this Friday). Children are welcome to bring completed boxes in to school before then as class teachers will find somewhere for them to be stored. We are very grateful to you for your help with this worthwhile project.

## Winter weather

The weather seems to be turning increasingly chilly! You are welcome to send in hats, gloves and scarves etc for use at playtimes as we will still be playing out throughout the winter time. Please check that all hats, gloves etc are clearly marked with your child's name and we will endeavour to return lost items to their owner.

## Talking Homework

This week's Talking Homework has a book theme, linking with the Book Fair. What is your favourite story/poem/book and why? Do you have a favourite author? Do your parents have a favourite type of text; maybe crime, romance or thriller? Do you know the difference between fiction and non-fiction? You could always share your favourite stories/books at home this weekend!

## Data Collection Sheet Year R – 6

Please ensure that the Data Collection sheet which your child should have brought home today is returned to school by Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November.

## Growing Club Area

Can we remind parents that children are not allowed to play around the planters that have recently been erected for Gardening Club. This area is strictly off limits to children.

## Dinner Money

Can we please remind parents once again that Dinner monies must be paid on a Monday morning for the coming week. If any arrears accrue over 2 weeks your child will be asked to bring a packed lunch. If you are experiencing any difficulties please get in touch with Mrs Williamson who will be happy to speak to you.

## Kingsway Park High School

Please see attached a note from Kingsway Park High School which we have been asked by the local authority to circulate to all parents.

WHITTAKER MOSS PARENTS TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

## CHRISTMAS FAIR THURSDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2010

We are holding our Christmas Fair on Thursday 25 November at **3.30pm** in the Main Hall and middle area. There will be tombola's, decorate a Christmas decoration, pick a card, raffles, lucky dip, decorate a biscuit/cake, games and more.

We would be very grateful for any donations of food, drink and any unwanted gifts etc. for our Tombola Stalls and Hampers.

To make donating that much easier, may we suggest that children bring in donations as per last year as follows:

Classes 1 and 5	-	Christmas Confectionery (e.g. Selection boxes, tubes of sweets, multipacks of chocolate etc.)
Classes 2 and 6	-	Traditional Christmas foodstuffs for the Food Hampers (e.g. tinned soup, tinned fruit, tinned salmon or tinned ham, biscuits, crackers, tea, coffee etc.)
Classes 3 and 7	-	Christmas Confectionery or Bottles for the Bottle Tombola
Classes 4 and 8	-	Bottles for the Bottle Tombola/Bottle Hamper (e.g. wine, spirits, lemonade, cola, cordial etc.)

Any other donations such as **toiletries or unwanted gifts for the Mixed Tombola stall** will of course be greatly appreciated.

Following requests from a number of parents, we will again be having a **new and nearly new toys and books stall**. So if you have any unwanted new or nearly new games, toys, puzzles or books please would you bring them in to school as soon as possible.

**Helpers** – we would also be grateful for any offers of assistance. So if you feel you can spare half an hour on the day to help run a stall with a friend, please let one of the PTA members know.

**Please would you bring in any donations asap – ideally by  
Friday 19 November**

Thank You for your support

Margaret Howard  
Chairman – Whittaker Moss PTA

To: Parents & Carers, staff, and students at Kingsway Park High School, **Parents & Carers of children in Rochdale township primary schools**; Secondary and Primary schools in Rochdale township; Secretaries of recognised Trades Unions; Young Peoples Learning Agency; Local Member of Parliament; Rochdale Township Councillors; Manchester and Salford Diocesan Authorities; Rochdale Local Authority, Neighbouring Local Authorities.

## KINGSWAY PARK HIGH SCHOOL

### PROPOSAL TO BECOME A NATIONAL CHALLENGE TRUST SCHOOL

*This letter is sent to tell you about a change to Kingsway Park High School*

Dear Sir/Madam,

*The Governing Body of Kingsway Park High School has decided to publish proposals to acquire a Foundation and acquire a majority of Foundation Governors. This change will make Kingsway Park High School a National Challenge Trust School so that it can raise and maintain higher standards by working with education partners. The change to the school is that a the new Trust will be set up to work with the school and the Trust will appoint the majority of the governors.*

*The change does not affect applications for places at Kingsway Park High School. The change does not affect staffing arrangements for the new school.*

A summary of the proposal is on the next page of this letter, and the full consultation document is available on the new school website- <http://www.kingswaypark.org> . The governors believe that this change will help improve standards at Kingsway Park by setting up a close working partnership with strong education partners and by making sure that parents have more of a say in the new school.

The Governing Body of Kingsway Park High School is leading this proposed change and wants to hear your views.

A meeting has been arranged at *6pm on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2010* at the Kingsway site, where you can ask questions about the proposal.

If you want to object to the proposal or make a comment please do so by 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010. Contact details are on the following page.

Yours Faithfully,

Dame Pamela Coward DBE  
Chair of Governors

## KINGSWAY PARK HIGH SCHOOL

### PROPOSAL to ACQUIRE A FOUNDATION and A MAJORITY OF FOUNDATION GOVERNORS

#### SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSAL

1. Kingsway Park opened as a foundation school in September 2010 without a foundation.
2. The Governing Body of Kingsway Park *proposes to change the category of Kingsway Park High School* from a foundation school without a foundation, to a foundation school with a Foundation (that is, acquire a majority Trust). The difference between the two categories of school is that in a school without a foundation, Trust partners appoint 2 governors, whereas in a school with a Foundation, the Trust appoints the majority of the governors in accordance with government regulations. There are no other changes.
3. The new Trust will be made up of three education partners- Middleton Technology School, Rochdale Sixth Form College and Rochdale Local Authority.
4. The Trust will take decisions for the general direction of the school. It will hold the land and buildings on trust for the Kingsway Park and will appoint the majority of the governors. Parents will make up one third of the total governing body. The Trust will make sure that standards in the new school improve in line with an agreed improvement plan.
5. The governing body of Kingsway Park will still be the employer of staff. It will be responsible for the organisation and management of the school.
6. The National Challenge aims at making sure standards improve in secondary schools so that more than 30% of students achieve more than 5 GCSE's at A\*-C including English and maths.
7. *For Parents*, a new Parent Council will be set up to make sure the views of parents are taken into account by the school.  
*For students*, future admissions for Year 7 places at Kingsway are not affected by the change.  
*For Staff*, the Governing Body of Kingsway Park High School will continue to be the employer of staff.
8. *Timetable for the proposal*: this consultation is 4 weeks, after which the Kingsway Park Governing Body will consider responses and decide the whether to acquire a Foundation and acquire a majority of Foundation Governors. If agreed the change in status would be from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011..
9. *For more information go to <http://www.kingswaypark.org> , or you can come to the following meeting:*  
6-7 p.m. Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2010 in the main Hall at the Kingsway site- Turf Hill Road.
10. *Printed copies of the additional information are available from the school at the address below. If you want to make comments or representations-* send them by 5.00pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010 in writing or by e-mail to: Clerk to the Governing Body, Kingsway Park High School, Turf Hill Road, ROCHDALE, OL16 4XA, or [education@rochdale.gov.uk](mailto:education@rochdale.gov.uk)