



Dear Parents/ Carers

**Home Access Scheme** - free computers for families with low incomes

Some of you may be aware of the new 'Home Access' scheme, a government drive that helps families with low-incomes who currently lack access to a computer and/ or internet to get online at home. It provides a grant to eligible families enabling them to choose from a range of approved packages. The grant is a significant one and can cover a computer, one year's internet access, service and support. Broadly speaking, families are likely to be eligible if they have a child on free school meals in Key Stage 2 or 3.

To apply, parents need to phone a call centre on 03332 001004 and after preliminary screening, an application form is sent to them. The website for the scheme is <http://www.homeaccess.org.uk/>

**Cambridgeshire Music present Striking Together for Bronze**

On 4<sup>th</sup> July 2010, Cambridgeshire Music will present Striking Together for Bronze at the Cambridge Corn Exchange at 7pm.

Striking Together for Bronze is the third in a series of percussion only concerts written and conceived by Cambridgeshire Music's Mark Aldous. Students, teachers, community groups and professional performers will combine to perform thrilling new arrangements including the world premiere of Striking Together for Bronze – a ground-breaking new piece commissioned for a 100 percussion orchestra including samba and steel pan groups from our local community.

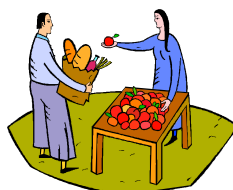
CM is offering free tickets through schools available for a limited period of time. Students can purchase them by contacting the Corn Exchange Box Office on 01223 357851 quoting "school" **before** 4<sup>th</sup> June 2010. After that date, tickets will be £12, £8 for concessions.

**School Council News**

We would like to raise some money for the school allotment. They need some money to buy some shelving for the new greenhouse and would also like to build a cold frame.

We will be holding a plant and cake sale on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 3.30 p.m. in the small hall. There will also be other activities to try including a treasure hunt game, guess how many seeds are in the jar and name the flowerpot man.

If you have any plants or seedlings you wish to donate to the sale please leave them at the School Office on the Friday morning.



Thank you

School Council

## **Walk to School Week: 17<sup>th</sup> – 21 May 2010**

The school will be taking part in the forthcoming Walk to School Week in May. For a whole week, children all around the country will be walking to school to help cut pollution on the school-run. Cars produce more pollution (per kilometre) on short journeys, when the engine is cold and the car keeps stopping and starting in traffic jams.

We can all play an important role in supporting Walk to School Week and as Headteacher I am delighted to support this initiative. Clearly, the distance children need to travel to school can affect their ability to take part, but there are ways for everyone to be involved. For example, if you drive your child or children to school, why not try parking away from the school and walking the last half mile or so? Simple ideas such as this can help cut school-gate congestion whilst improving the health of your child and yourself.

Walking is a healthy way of doing your bit for the environment and it keeps you and your children fit. Start the day with fresh air and exercise and you'll feel great! Research has shown that the level of pollutants inside a car is 3 times worse than that on the pavement.

Walking to school also helps develop better road sense and greater independence. Accidents do happen, but this should not put us off from going out – it should make us realise the importance of keeping our wits about us, and thinking ahead. Walking to school is a great time to encourage children to think about common sense ways to deal with difficulties and stay safe. Parents and carers who walk with younger children might use it as an opportunity to think about things like:

- Choosing the safest place to cross the road;
- Thinking about hazards and dangers, such as driveways and parked cars;
- Watching other people crossing the road and talking about unsafe behaviour;
- Choosing well-used routes and avoiding out-of-view short-cuts.

While older children, who are perhaps less likely to be accompanied by an adult, can also be encouraged to:

- Walk with a friend or a group of friends;
- Cross the road if it looks like there could be trouble ahead;
- Learn their address, telephone number and postcode;
- Identify safe places along the route – perhaps a public place or the home of a family friend;
- Know how to refuse a lift or sweets from an unknown adult;
- Trust their own instincts if they feel nervous about a situation;
- Be prepared to shout confidently and loudly if an adult makes an unwanted approach;
- Talk about any worries with a parent or a teacher.

We want our children to be safe, confident and independent, and walking to school is a healthy and environmentally friendly way to learn many invaluable life skills. I hope that you can – in some way – take part in Walk to School Week this May.

Yours faithfully,

*S J Dorrington*

Headteacher