



Number
10

MILTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

www.milton.cambs.sch.uk

20th January 2012

Dear Parents/Carers

Parent/Teacher Consultations - Thank you for signing up for an appointment to talk to teachers about your child's progress. Confirmation of appointment times will be sent on January 25th. Please can I remind you that if you have a concern that will take more than 10 minutes you will need to make an appointment on a separate occasion.

Congratulations to the school choir who performed wonderfully at 'The Big Sing' on Saturday. Along with several adult choirs and musicians the children were part of a prestigious event that was held at Great St. Mary's Church. The event raised just under £6000 for EACH. We are sure all that were present will agree that the children performed with great enjoyment and skill and deserved the many compliments given to them.

Children's Clothing - At the end of term there was the usual pile of unnamed lost property. Please can you check that your child's clothing is clearly named; labels do fade in the wash. We have a large stock of recycled school uniform that is available at 50p per item; It will be available to purchase at the parent/ teacher consultation evenings.

Blue Smile - You may not be aware that Blue Smile, which is an organisation providing support to children and young people, works in Milton each Wednesday. Through the charity individual children are offered support in a one-to-one therapeutic arts programme. This means that once a week for around 50 minutes a child will be able to see a person whose training is in therapy and counselling.

The purpose of these sessions is to give a child a special time when he/she can talk or play and can think about any feelings or worries which may be causing difficulties. Sometimes children's learning is hampered by strong emotions, impulsive behaviours or negative thinking. The sessions can help them make sense of these, so they feel happier, more confident and are better able to work in lessons. The aim is to support children emotionally and to help them achieve their true potential.

Parents are fully involved in any referral and regular meetings are held with the key worker. The content of sessions is not discussed with the school, unless the child is at risk for any reason. All Blue Smile staff are CRB checked.

Mrs Val Golightly who worked in school last year has taken the decision to retire; she was an enormous support to the school community and will be greatly missed. We are pleased to be able to tell you the name of the new counsellor who will be working at Milton is Ms Lisa Briffett. Lisa who has been qualified as a counsellor for fifteen years, working with children, young people and adults is looking forward to working at Milton.

Yours Sincerely

S J Dorrington & A E Lycett

Joint Headteachers

Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities – Free parenting programme – at Milton C of E Primary – from Thursday 26th January, 1.30pm-3.00pm – All welcome

This is a popular parenting programme for parents and carers with children aged 3-18. The programme is for parents and carers from all backgrounds who would like to work on their parenting skills and build positive relationships with their children. To book a place or for more information contact Parent Support Advisors: Patricia Kortlever 01223 729074 or Sue Derry 01223 729113.

IVC Conversion to Academy Status

At the Full Governors Meeting of Impington Village College held on Tuesday 10 January, the final stages of conversion to Academy Status were discussed and debated, in particular as to whether the resolution passed by the Governing Body at its meeting on 19 July 2011 (see below) had been achieved:


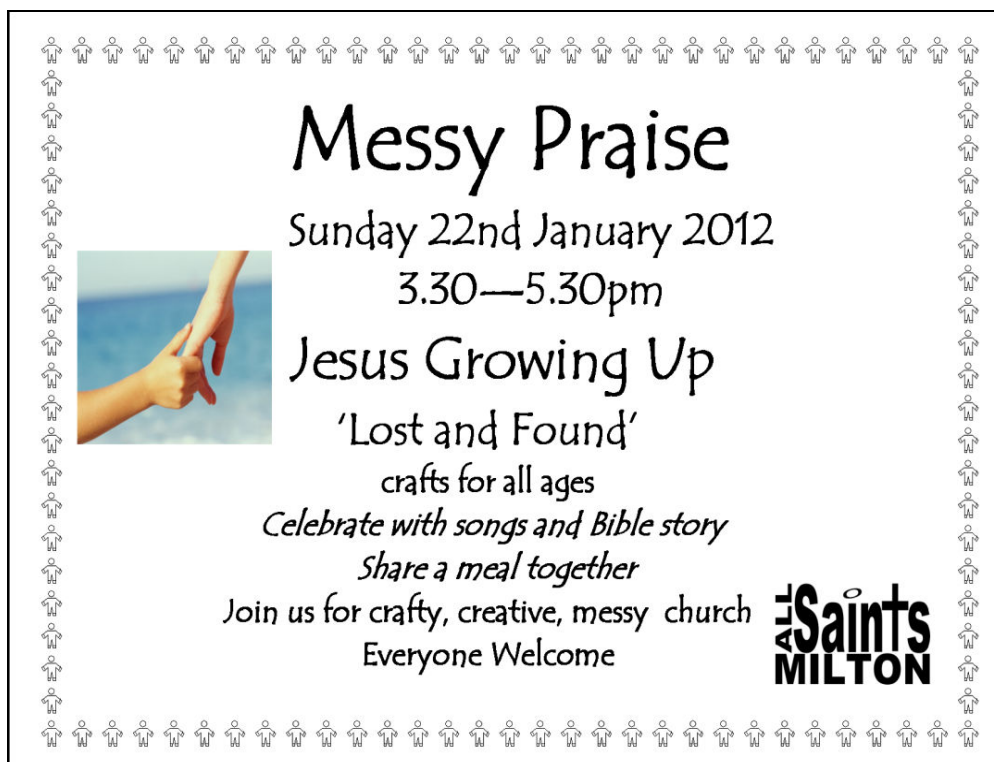
We resolve to continue with the conversion to Academy status – subject to the approval by the Governing Body of the Articles of Association or other legal structure, intended to preserve the ethos and distinctive character of IVC.

Thanks to the excellent work of the Academy Working Party in ensuring the Articles of Association were amended, the Governing Body did feel confident that conversion would preserve the ethos and character of the College. The resolution to convert was therefore passed with 14 Governors voting in favour, 2 against and 2 abstentions.

The College (and education more generally) finds itself in a landscape that is changing rapidly. Many may be aware of David Cameron's New Year's message in which he stated that 'Too often our schools aren't up to scratch'. He did qualify this by adding that 'Brilliant and committed people work in public services - but somehow the system stops them doing their job. So we'll change it.'

Encouraging schools to become Academies is part of this systemic change. Many in education have concerns about this because it represents such a potential departure from the past. However, the Governing Body feels that becoming an Academy (with the associated autonomy) is the very best status for the College at this time to ensure we preserve its distinct and unique ethos and character as a village college in accordance with the vision of Henry Morris.

Impington Village College is now fully set to convert to Academy Status from 1 February 2012.



Messy Praise

Sunday 22nd January 2012
3.30—5.30pm

Jesus Growing Up

'Lost and Found'
crafts for all ages
Celebrate with songs and Bible story
Share a meal together
Join us for crafty, creative, messy church
Everyone Welcome

SAINTS MILTON