

12th February 2010

Dear Parents,

Another half term has gone with rapid speed and we hope that the cold and poor weather has disappeared with it. On our return to the second half of the spring term, many of our pupils will be building up to extremely important examinations. I personally believe, in the light of the present economic climate, that our pupils and students seeking college and university places or apprenticeships and jobs are going to find it tough and demanding because of limited places and huge competition. Our pupils and students have got to be at their very best to move into the next stage of their lives and they need to take examination grades with them that truly reflect effort and commitment. We are doing our very best in this respect, extra classes, extra study support, mentoring, target groups, weekend sessions, Easter revision days all combined with a caring but challenging school ethos. I know that as parents, you will be concerned and hoping that your son/daughter achieves what they are capable of. Underachievement is frustrating for us all. You will receive information from our school on a regular basis regarding examinations but there is never a substitute for healthy living. I repeat my constant message, poor diet combined with too many fizzy drinks inhibits learning and leads to underachievement. This is an area where families can really, really make a difference, reduce the junk food and the fizzy /energy drinks.

With the days getting longer as we approach spring, please remember that there are a huge variety of after school activities on offer including our study clubs and cyber cafes.

Last week we organised an Internet Safety information evening for parents and families. A reminder that there is information on our website together with 'free' downloadable software. Also, if you require any information regarding the 'Home Access Grant', a government initiative which provides funding for internet access and hardware for pupils on free school meals, please contact our schools.

Our Curriculum Enhancement and Enrichment day held yesterday was fantastic with our children involved in a wonderful range of learning activities, trips and visits. My thanks go to parents for being so supportive of such events.

Small Heath Young Rep's pantomime production this year is Sleeping Beauty. Tickets are on sale at £4.00 (£2.50 for under 16s) from Miss. Hughes. Performances are on Wednesday 24th, Thursday 25th, and Friday 26th February at 7pm, with a matinee performance on Saturday 27th February at 12pm. I recommend that you purchase tickets soon because they are selling very quickly.

Finally, I wish you all a happy, safe and healthy half term break.

With my very best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

P. Slough
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Staff Training Day	-	Monday 22nd February
Term re-starts for pupils	-	Tuesday 23rd February
Sleeping Beauty Pantomime	-	Wednesday 24th – Saturday 27th February
Y10 Examinations	-	Monday 22nd March – Wednesday 31st March
End of Term	-	Thursday 1st April

Small Heath Youth & Connexion Centre February Half – Term 2010

Monday 15th	Tuesday 16th	Wednesday 17th	Thursday 18th	Friday 19th
12.00-4.30pm	12.00-4.30pm	12.00-4.30pm	12.00-4.30pm	2pm-5.00pm
Registration, general activities, sports, board games etc. Ice-Skating girls only	Ten Pin Bowling (20 young people only). Meet at Youth Centre 12	General activities Sports, board games etc.	Mini Golf (15 young people) Meet at youth centre for 12	General activities Sports, board games etc.

Small Heath Youth Centre February Half Term Programme is for young people aged 11-16 years old and sixth formers who attend Small Heath 6th form.

Please be aware that spaces are limited for off-site activities. If you require any further information, please speak to Youth Workers.

Small Heath Youth Centre, Muntz Street, Small Heath, Birmingham B10 9RX 0121 464 0981