

Thursday 9th June 2011

Dear Parents,

On Wednesday 15th June you will already know it is our annual sports day. I am aware of the feverish preparations, the strive for speed and strategy, the drive to being at the front that is taking place with just a few days to go....and that is just for you and the picnic spots! The children are really looking forward to an afternoon of sports.

As with last year we are making a slight change with regards to the picnic arrangement to try to eliminate the uncertainty and problems for parents experienced in previous years when the weather has been unpredictable. This year, parents will still be invited to turn up from 12pm onwards to picnic on the spectator's bank. However, we shall operate our lunchtime as normal for the children and they will have their normal dinner choice which they have booked or their packed lunch and will then be allowed to come and see you once they have eaten their normal lunch. This means that as parents you still have a social opportunity and time to settle in before the events start and still see your children but we also avoid the uncertainty of whether to provide lunch or parents having to bring down a packed lunch if we have to cancel the sports events due to bad weather.

On the actual day of the sports please come to the Beachcroft Road gate to the drive where you will be let in. You can go straight to the field via the top gate. Staff will be positioned to assist you. Please note – gates on Maidensbridge Road will not be open at 12pm for security reasons as the school is in session. There is also no parking available within the school grounds.

For those not able to join us for the picnic the events will start at approximately 1.10pm. In line with our Healthy Schools status I must ask you to refrain from bringing take-away food e.g. McDonalds, Fish and Chips etc. I would also like to remind parents that they are not allowed to consume alcohol on school grounds. Also, in line with our school policy and the law, Maidensbridge is a no-smoking venue.

For the afternoon events your child will complete a variety of activities and the two Key Stages will operate a competitive circuit followed by running finals at the end of the afternoon. All children will be competing for their House Teams within their class groups. **As with previous years, if your child has a t-shirt in the colour of their team, they may wear that.** If not, normal P.E. kit can be worn and we hope to have stickers/ribbons or badges to identify the teams. Please do not feel that you have to go out and buy a coloured t-shirt specifically for the event. The children will be reminded about their respective teams and colours by their class teachers. New pupils will be allocated a team and told in the same way.

Please bring your own picnic rugs or folding chairs etc as school chairs will not be available.

Finally a reminder that should the weather prevent us from holding the event a decision will be made as early as possible as to the safety and well-being of the children. This information will be relayed via Groupcall Text Message as early as possible if the event is to be cancelled and will also be featured on the scrolling news bar on the school website front page at www.maidensbridge.net . Please **do not** telephone the school to enquire about whether the sports day is going ahead or not as it can tie up the main line into school.

The H.S.A have also asked me to remind you that they will be selling raffle tickets for our summer draw at the sports day and the two KS2 productions in July, so please bring your pocket money!

I look forward to seeing you all for this extremely enjoyable event.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Hale
Headteacher