

Dear Students of Ruth-Cohn-Schule,

>

> Thank you for your letter to Professor Hawking of 21 December 2009.

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> Professor Hawking is always glad to receive letters and appreciates you

> writing to him. He hopes you will understand that because of his severe

> disabilities and numerous commitments, he is unable to reply to you

> personally. Please accept our apologies for this form of reply.

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> However, to give you some idea of Prof. Hawking's views on helping the

> next generation, in a press interview he was asked about his thoughts on

> influencing children to take an interest in science. This is what he said:

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> "I want to share my enthusiasm and excitement with children. Children

> are not afraid to ask the 'How and Why' questions. Too often they are

> told that these are silly questions by grown ups who don't know the

> answers."

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> You are welcome to quote this.

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> I hope the above is useful.

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> Best wishes for 2010 to Claudia Brozio, Andre Rother, Dominik

> Hardebrusch and Sebastian from Prof. Hawking!

>

> Sincerely,

>

> Judith

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> --

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