



22nd September 2017

*'Our school will provide the best possible education for all pupils.  
We will instil in them an enjoyment and thirst for learning to enable them to fulfil their  
potential and excel in all they do'.*

## September Newsletter

Dear Parents,

The children have settled into their new classes and I know that many of you have attended the parent information mornings and had the opportunity to visit classrooms which I hope you enjoyed. The children have come back to school looking very smart and eager to learn so we are looking forward to another highly successful year!

### Communication

Communication with parents is an area that we try to improve year on year. I know that much administration time is spent on sending out communication about clubs, sports fixtures and trips etc. and we try to give as much notice about these as possible. All events should be on the school web site if letters home or electronic communication gets lost along the way, and I try and keep parents informed as much as possible through monthly newsletters. Please let the school know if you experience trouble receiving the communication that is sent out.

Likewise, if parents wish to pass on a message or communicate with their child's teacher there are a number of ways in which this can be done:

- Tell the teacher on morning gate duty who will pass on the message to your child's teacher.
- Contact the school office (by phone or email) if you wish to make an appointment to see the class teacher. Mrs Humphries is also at the front desk in the mornings to receive visitors through the school entrance.
- Give your child a note to pass on to the teacher (or place a note in the child's book wallet if in Year R and Year 1 as these are checked by staff every day).
- Speak to the teacher after school - all teachers are out on the playground at the end of the day and are available to talk with parents.
- All classrooms will be open to parents on the first Thursday of every month - if you wish to speak with your child's class teacher about anything then please make use of this facility.

### Parent Partnership Group Meeting

I will be holding the first Parent Partnership meeting of this year on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 9am. These meetings are very informal and are organised to give parents the opportunity to contribute to the strategic development of the school. (They are not a platform to raise individual issues - this should be done through communication via the school office) Some of the items on the agenda for this meeting are: school policies; work of the Senior Leadership Team and school improvement. If time allows there will be a tour of the school. All parents/carers are welcome and I look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible - it would be good to see at least one representative from each class. If you are able to attend, then please complete the tear off slip at the bottom of this letter and return it to your child's class teacher.

### Homework

All homework is placed on the school web site, so if your child is unsure about anything then that is the place to look. As well as homework, there will be links to web sites that support the learning undertaken in class. At times, there may be small technical issues that arise. If this happens, then please raise these with the teacher who will quickly sort them.

### School Council

I understand that the school council will be elected very soon and these children will be introduced to the school community once they have been assigned formal roles.

### Inflatable evening

FOSA's inflatable evening for the children is on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September at 3.15pm so please look out for communication about this from FOSA who very much look forward to seeing everyone there!

### Book Fayre

The school's annual book fayre is arriving on 3<sup>rd</sup> October. A separate communication will be sent out about this shortly.

### Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival is taking place on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October in the school assembly. As in previous years this will be conducted by the Reverend Ken from St Andrew's Church and each class will present along a theme of sharing and giving. Unfortunately, due to lack of space parents cannot be accommodated at this event but photos will be taken for parents to view on Twitter and the school's web site. Donations in the form of canned or dry foods can be sent in to school the week before and these will be shared between Mike's Magical Moments Cancer Charity and local residents.

### Whole School Debate

Year 6 pupils will be leading our whole school debate which will take place on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October. The question for debate is very topical and current: *Should school uniform be gender neutral?*

### Bog Eyed Jog

The annual Bog Eyed Jog is taking place on the last Friday of this half term - a separate communication will be sent out about this.

### Open Mornings

We have organised a number of open mornings for prospective parents. These are always very well attended, but if you know of anyone who is interested in sending their child to Scotts then please direct them to the school web site which has the list of dates.

### Safeguarding

The school is holding its annual safeguarding Week from 2nd-6th October. Along with in-school training, staff will also be attending safeguarding training in the borough on a range of themes including: the Prevent Duty; Sexting and Whistleblowing Procedures. The dedicated safeguarding day for the children will be Thursday 5th October, where they will be learning how to keep themselves safe in various ways.

School safeguarding policies including the Child Protection and Whistleblowing policies have been reviewed and updated for this year. A Peer on Peer abuse policy has also been developed in accordance with borough recommendations. All these will be placed on the school web site once they have been agreed by Governors at the Full Governing Body Meeting on 11th October.

Safeguarding is a key feature of the school's annual cycle of training (for staff and pupils) and also school improvement. It is an item on the weekly staff and senior leader meeting agendas and continues to remain a priority of this school at all times.

### Playground rules

To ensure the safety of everyone after school, children have been reminded to follow these rules:

- At the end of the school day it is difficult for teachers to supervise the children. Therefore, for their own safety, children are not allowed to play on the climbing frame or fitness equipment.
- Children or adults are not allowed to ride scooters or bikes on the playground or along pathways as this can be dangerous for other users, particularly younger pre-school siblings.

### Labels

Finally, I would like to remind you to please label any clothes, plimsolls, water bottles and lunchboxes, so that we can return lost property to the rightful owner. The school cannot be held responsible for any items that are lost.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Taylor  
(Head Teacher)

I confirm that I am able to attend the Parent Partnership Meeting on Friday 13th October 2017.

Child's name..... Class.....

Signed..... (Parent/carer signature)

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**Dates for Your Diary:**

25 <sup>th</sup> - 29 <sup>th</sup> September	-	Y5 Bikeability week
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	-	FoSA Inflatables 3:15pm - 5pm
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	-	Individual School Photographs Book Fair Starts after school
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	-	Y3 & Y4 Activity Day at Stubbers Netball Tournament at Albany School
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	-	Space Day Lunch (menu to follow shortly) Road Safety Workshop for Y1 & Y2 School Nurse Drop-in Session from 3pm Open class Thursday drop-in
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	-	Harvest Festival
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	-	Road Safety Workshop for Y3 & Y4.
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	-	Parent Partnership Meeting @ 9am
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	-	Y6 Debate
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	-	Bog-Eyed Jog - details to follow.
23 <sup>rd</sup> - 27 <sup>th</sup> October	-	Half Term Holidays
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	-	INSET Day - School Closed
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	-	Children return to school



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