

## Governor Headline:

As Mr Carthy mentioned in the last Newsletter, Governors had a day in School this Monday. It was a very informative, interesting, enlightening and practical day which enabled us to hear about day to day issues, as well as giving us the opportunity to reinforce our role in monitoring progress, revisiting the School Improvement Plan and our performance indicators.

We had an in-depth session on interpreting national and school data and visited classes across the year groups to see Maths teaching in progress – we then discussed our observations with Ms Scudder and Mrs Langthorne. In our “walk about” we saw how strategies and learning plans were being put into effect and the positive impact on the children. Later in the day a session on book scrutiny with the Director of Learning enabled us to ask questions on how children are supported and encouraged in their work and to ensure that pupil progress is the number one priority for the school.

“Behind the scenes” work is often taken for granted, but we were able to hear about the role of our Family Liaison Officer, Mrs Vella, who gave us a real understanding of the breadth of her work and the wide variety of outside agencies that she has contact with on a regular basis; support of this kind can make a real difference to a pupil’s performance in school.

We also heard about the start of our journey towards becoming a UNICEF Rights respecting school, and how this will involve the whole school community – over time we will be more involved in this process.

I am pleased to say that at our meeting in December we will be joined by our new Parent Governor, Mrs Sarr, and on behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to extend a warm welcome to her.

Lilian Gould  
Chair of Governors

## News

### Class Assemblies

Parents are invited to join their children for their Class Assemblies. Please allow plenty of time to sign in and take your seat – assemblies will begin promptly at 9am and access to the hall after this is disruptive for the children hosting the assembly.

These are the dates for the class assemblies for this term.

6C – 15<sup>th</sup> November  
6R – 22<sup>nd</sup> November  
5N – 29<sup>th</sup> November

### Depression Support Group

There will be a meeting of The Depression Support Group on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November at Gillingham Baptist Church with guest speaker Dan Beardsmore coming to talk about his experiences as a frontline paramedic.

To access information about various activities and support groups please visit the following website <http://www.gillinghambaptistchurchkent.org.uk/diary.html>

### Anti Bullying Week

Yesterday we had an assembly on Anti-bullying, in preparation for next week’s national Anti-bullying week’, by the Medway Health Team in which they launched a new poster competition. As with our previous competitions any medium may be used, so children can be creative with their ideas, to produce an interesting poster that sends the message of stopping bullying. Templates have come home with children today and completed posters need to be returned before 23<sup>rd</sup> November. There will be prizes for the best in each class. We look forward to seeing children’s designs.

## Reminders

### Children In Need Tag Day

We will be holding a Tag Day on Friday

## Coming Soon

Heights, Weights and Hearing Tests for FS  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November

Power of the Theatre Performances Yrs 3-6  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November

Children In Need Tag Day  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November

Friday Club Options Confirmed  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November

KS1 Production to Parents  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December, 9.15am and 2.30pm

Christmas Fayre  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December

Foundation Stage Nativity to Parents  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December, 9.15am and 2.30pm

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Dinner  
and Class Parties

Christmas Jumper Tag Day for MENCAP  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December

Junior Church Service at St Augustine’s  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 9.30am

## Term Dates 2017/18

**Term 2**  
Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017  
until  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2017

**Term 3**  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018  
until  
Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018

**Term 4**  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018  
until  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018

**Term 5**  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018  
until  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018

**Term 6**  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018  
until  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2018

## Uniform

A navy blue jumper, sweatshirt or cardigan.  
Navy, black or grey trousers, tailored shorts, skirt or dress/navy and white checked dress. A white or blue polo shirt, shirt or blouse. Flat plain black shoes or trainers (no heels or open toes).  
[www.tesco.com/ues](http://www.tesco.com/ues)



The Westbrook Trust  
Achieve together

17<sup>th</sup> November to collect money for Children in Need.

This will be an opportunity for you to get rid of those last remaining 'old' pound coins as part of Pudsey's Round Pound Countdown. The hunt for round pound coins is on.

As of 15<sup>th</sup> October, round pound coins went out of circulation. There are still millions to be found, so join the treasure hunt and check your money boxes and down the sofa to see how many you can find. Donating them to BBC Children in Need will help to change the lives of children and young people throughout the UK. If you don't find any old pound coins, then a new ones will be lovely! Please send your donations on the day.

Thank you

### Tag Days

These events are designed to boost school funds, raise monies for charities or to make collections of items, eg chocolate for upcoming school events. If you do not wish to make a donation, please send your child in full uniform.

## Health & Wellbeing

### Thread worms

The worms are white and look like small pieces of thread. You may notice them around your child's bottom or in their poo. They don't always cause symptoms, but people often experience itchiness. It can be worse at night and disturb sleep. If you think you or your child may have threadworms, you can usually treat the infection yourself with medication from the pharmacy. Threadworms lay their eggs around an infected person's bottom, usually at night. Along with the eggs, the worm also secretes a mucus that causes itching.

If the eggs get stuck on the person's fingertips when they scratch, they can be transferred to their mouth or on to surfaces and clothes. If other people touch an infected surface, they can then transfer the eggs to their mouth.

Threadworm eggs can survive for up to two weeks before hatching. If the eggs hatch around the anus, the newborn worms can re-enter the bowel. Eggs that have been swallowed will hatch inside the intestine. After two weeks, the worms reach adult size and begin to reproduce, starting the cycle again.

If you or your child has threadworms, everyone in your household will need to be treated as there's a high risk of the infection spreading. This includes those who don't have any symptoms of an infection. For most people, treatment will involve taking a single dose of a medication called mebendazole to kill the worms. If necessary, another dose can be taken after two weeks.

During treatment and for a few weeks afterwards, it's also

important to follow strict hygiene measures to avoid spreading the threadworm eggs. This includes regularly vacuuming your house and thoroughly washing your bathroom and kitchen.

## In The Community

### Big Christmas Lights Switch-

Join in the annual switch-on celebrations – there will be family fun for everyone. Entertainment starts at 3.45pm and the lights will be switched on around 5pm.

Gillingham Lights – Smiths Square, High Street – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November – entertainment including performances by 15 year old singing sensation Jack Rose, X-Factor finalist Joseph and West End star Catherine Cassell.

Chatham High Street – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November – the lights will be switched on by the Mayor and Mayoress and Hollyoaks star Andy Moss.

Rochester Lights and Santa Fun Run – High Street – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November. Entertainment gets under way from 12 noon. The Mayor and Mayoress will be joined by actress and tv personality Claire Sweeney.

Strood lights - Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November – there will be choir singing, competitions and prizes and appearance by Owlette from PJ Masks.

Rainham lights – Friday 1st December – Deputy Major will switch on the lights with Paddington Bear who you can also meet at Rainham Library at 2pm. Booking for this is essential – please phone 337799.

### Pat on the Back

The class with the best attendance for week beginning 16th October was 5/6A with a 98.9%. FS2F had no late pupils that week and 98.8% of children arrived on time.

### Inclusions this week

- FS walk to the post box
- Year 6 Christmas helper letter
- Photo proofs to go home
- Year 1&2 St Augustine's Church visit.

*This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, achieving equal opportunities and combating discrimination*

**Head Teacher:** Mr Carthy

**Deputy Heads:** Mrs Langthorne (4-7 year olds) and Mr Chantler (7-11 year olds)

**Family Liaison Officer:** Mrs Vella

**Inclusion Manager:** Mrs Hill

*This school operates a very clear whistleblowing policy for staff*