

Headline:

This week has been Anti-Bullying Week in England. This is coordinated by the Anti-Bullying Alliance.

Anti-Bullying Week shines a spotlight on bullying and encourages all children, teachers and parents to take action against bullying throughout the year.

The theme this year is 'All Different, All Equal'.

The aim of this week is to:

- empower children and young people to celebrate what makes them, and others, unique
- help children and young people understand how important it is that every child feels valued and included in school, able to be themselves, without fear of bullying
- encourage parents and carers to work with their school and talk to their children about bullying, difference and equality
- enable teachers and other children's workforce professionals to celebrate what makes us 'all different, all equal' and celebrate difference and equality. Encouraging them to take individual and collective action to prevent bullying, creating safe environments where children can be themselves.

During anti-bullying week, we have run a series of specific assemblies and other activities with the children.

We have also been looking again and what advice our policy gives children and I thought it would be a good idea to share this with you.

If children witness bullying they should do one or more of the following:

- Tell an adult
- Stay with the victim
- Step in and say 'no!'
- Comfort the victim
- Listen to their concerns
- Ask them to join their game
- Don't join in the bullying

If children are being bullied or at risk they should do one or more of the following:

- Walk away and ignore
- Say 'no!'
- Tell a trusted adult
- Find a listening ear
- Try not to show they are upset
- Don't fight back
- If the bully wants a personal item, give it to them, then tell an adult
- Avoid being alone
- Go to a playground buddy
- Don't suffer in silence!
- Don't let it go on!
- Prevent it happening again by seeking support and "telling".

The Anti-Bullying Alliance has a great website which supports parents and children as well as schools. Why not take a look <http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/>.

Mr Carthy

News

Junior Playground

Huge thanks to Clancy Docwra who, following the completing of the water works repairs in the local area, have donated £1,000 to the school. Mr Carthy has met with the Junior School Council representatives and together they have decided that this money will be put with some of the Sports Premium money to purchase some outdoor gym equipment for the junior playground. Look out for this being installed in early 2018.

Coming Soon

Friday Club Options Confirmed
Friday 24th November

KS1 Production to Parents
Tuesday 5th December, 9.30am and 2.30pm

Christmas Fayre
Thursday 7th December

Foundation Stage Nativity to Parents
Tuesday 12th December, 9.30am and 2.45pm

Wednesday 13th December Christmas Dinner
and Class Parties

Christmas Jumper Tag Day for MENCAP
Friday 15th December

Church Service at St Augustine's
Tuesday 19th December 9.30am

Term Dates 2017/18

Term 2
Tuesday 31st October 2017
until
Tuesday 19th December 2017

Term 3
Monday 8th January 2018
until
Friday 9th February 2018

Term 4
Monday 19th February 2018
until
Thursday 29th March 2018

Term 5
Monday 16th April 2018
until
Friday 25th May 2018

Term 6
Tuesday 5th June 2018
until
Wednesday 25th July 2018

Term Dates 2018/2019

Term 1
Tuesday 4th September 2018
until
Friday 19th October 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



The Westbrook Trust
Achieve together

Staffing

We have a teacher new to the school joining us on Monday. Mr Seaward has recently relocated to the area and we are delighted to have him join the Junior teaching team. Mrs Fitzgerald, who left us in the summer, has now returned and is working as a Teaching Assistant in the infants. We know that you will make them both feel very welcome.

Parking

Street parking outside the school has always raised issues, in particular parking on the zigzag lines at each of the main gates.

Safety of the children is paramount and if parents feel that this has been compromised by thoughtless parking it would be appropriate for individuals to contact Medway Council.

Here is a number to call between 7am and 1am each day for reporting parking issues:

Tel. 07718130962

This number can be called for all parking issues.

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.

6R – 22nd November
5N – 29th November

Activities and Support Groups

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

Lost Property

Has your child lost a pair of spectacles? We have several pairs in the office that so far have not been claimed.

Reminders

Thank you to all parents who make sure children are not wearing earrings on PE day. Also thank you for appreciating that nail varnish on children is also

unacceptable in school.

Health & Wellbeing

NHS Health Check

Health Checks are free for Medway residents aged 40-74 if you haven't had a stroke, or you don't already have heart disease, diabetes or kidney disease. From 14th November this service will run at Chatham's Smoke Free Advice Centre. Walk-in appointments are also available – 2-2a Railway Street, Chatham. A 30 minute service can tell you whether you're at risk of getting certain health problems. You will also receive advice on ways to improve your health.

In The Community

Rochester Christmas Market – 25th - 26th

November, 10am-6pm; 1st December, 12 noon-8pm; 2nd-3rd December, 10am-7pm; 8th December, 12noon-8pm; 8th December, 12noon-8pm; 9th-10th December, 10am-6pm. Browse stalls for gifts, sample delights of the Bavarian food village and listen to the bandstand performers. Visit the funfair – rides on Fridays are only £1 per person.

Park for Free

There will be free parking in all Medway car parks between Monday 27th November and Thursday 30th November – for details of all Medway car parks visit medway.gov.uk/parking.

Pat on the Back

The class with the best attendance for week beginning 6th November was 1D with a 99.3%. 3/4T had no late pupils that week and 99.3% of children arrived on time.

Inclusions this week

- Kung Fu Leaflets
- Year R Santa Invitations
- Year 6 Wales Residential Letter
- FS Christmas Production Letter
- KS1 Christmas Production Letter

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