

## NEWSLETTER

### Welcome Back

Welcome back! All the children have returned eager and excited to join their new classes. They have settled well into the routines of school - smart in their new uniforms.

I hope you all managed to have a good summer - it was nice to have some sunny weather for a change.

I am sure you would like to join me in welcoming our new staff to the school:- Sarah Boon in Year 4 and Rose Blyth in KS1 Base.

We already have lots planned for the new academic year. Information about the work that the children are covering this half-term will come home shortly.

Information about Meet the Teacher will be coming out soon. Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> September and Nursery, Reception Years 1 and 2 will be week beginning 24<sup>th</sup> September. This will be an opportunity to meet your child's class teacher, find out about class routines and how you can help support your child.

Presentation Week is next week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> September. During this week the children will focussing on presenting their work as neatly as possible. There will be a head teacher's Award sticker for the 'Most Improved' and the 'Best' presentation in each class.

### Building Update

After initially being delayed for 4 weeks the builders have been extremely busy working really hard to catch up. We are currently expecting to have handover of the Nursery on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September.

Staff will then work over the weekend to ensure that the Nursery is ready for Monday 17<sup>th</sup> of September. We will write to confirm this on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

Building works will continue on the new multi-purpose room after the Nursery has opened.

Normal access around the site will only return once the playground surface has been reinstated after completion of the whole build.

I would like to thank you all for your support during our on-going improvement to our provision for your children.

### Upcoming events

Information will be sent home early next week about *Handwriting Week*. The children will practice their handwriting daily and there will be prizes for the 'Most Improved' and the 'Best' handwriting for each class.

*Clubs* letters have gone home with the children today. Please return your selection to the school office ASAP.

*Year 5/6 School Journey* is only a couple of weeks away now. A letter will come home with final reminders for the trip early next week. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us while we are away.

### PE and Book Bags

We have in school a stock of book bags and PE bags. We would like all children to be using these bags, they can be purchased using your School Gateway account or via Stevensons in St Albans.



### Music Lesson

All children who have signed up for group music lessons for the Violin and Cello these will take place every Monday and for Guitar on Tuesday morning, both starting next week.

## Meet the Teacher

Meet the Teacher will be an opportunity for you to meet your new class teacher. Come along and find out about the routines and expectations of class. Find out how you can work with school to support your child's learning at home. All meetings will take place in the school hall from 2.30 to 2.55pm with the exception of morning Nursery, see the timetable below for each year group.

Day / Date	11.30am	2.30pm
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> September		Year 5
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> September		Year 6
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> September		Year 3
Thursday 20 <sup>st</sup> September		Year 4
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	Year N (Oak AM)	Year N (Oak PM)
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> September		Year 1
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> September		Year 2
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> September		Year R (Ash/Elm)

## Year 6 - Secondary Transfer

All children in year 6 will need to apply for a secondary school place for September 2019. The online system is now open, the closing date for applications is the 31<sup>st</sup> October. Parents should apply online at [www.hertsdirect.org/admissions](http://www.hertsdirect.org/admissions)

For those of you who do not have internet access you are very welcome to use a computer at school. If you would like any help please talk to the office staff. The Moving-On booklet sent out recently will inform you of the dates for open evenings at the secondary schools and how to apply. If you would like another copy please contact the office.

## Message to Year 5 Parents

Secondary transfer is now open to all children currently in year 6. As year 5 parents this is an opportunity for you to also go around to their open evenings to have a look at what they have on offer. Further information can be found on our carousel or on individual secondary school websites.

## FSM

*Are you entitled to any of the following benefits?*

- Income support
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit with a taxable income of no more than £16,190 and not in receipt of Working Tax Credit
- Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit)
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after employment finishes or after you start to work less than 16 hours per week

*If so you may qualify for Free School Meals. This means that the school will receive additional funding for your child. This year we will receive **£1,320 for each pupil** in additional funding for each pupil who qualifies for free school meals. If you are able to register and qualify for free school meals before the end of September 2018 your child will receive a £10 book voucher.*

*If you are in reception, year 1 or year 2 your child may be getting Universal Free School Meals but will still need to apply.*

*Anyone who has already applied for and is already in receipt of free school meals for September 2018 will also qualify.*

## Reminders

### Collection of KS2 Pupils

When you arrive to collect your children at the end of the school day, please come through the pedestrian gate and wait in the playground, not on the path, to avoid congestion outside school. Children leaving school must wait on the pavement. This will make it easier for staff to see clearly who is collecting your child before allowing them to leave calmly and safely.

### Collection of KS1 pupils

Can we ask for parents to wait on the path by the classroom doors.

### Snacks

Please can we remind you to send in a healthy snack for children to eat at playtime, such as fruit or vegetables. We promote ourselves as a healthy school, therefore, sweets, crisps or chocolate are not allowed during morning break. Please note: *The school is a "nut free zone".*

**Nuts:-** We have several children in school who have *severe* allergic reactions to nuts. Please can I remind you that we **do not allow nuts of any sort in packed lunches** including peanut butter/chocolate spread. With your support we will keep all of our children safe.

**Uniform:-** The children have all returned extremely smartly to school, please make sure that you have labeled all of your children's clothing as we already have items in lost property!

**Jewellery:-** We have had an increasing variety of jewellery coming into school this new school year. Due to the danger of earrings becoming caught whilst children play we only allow children to wear small plain studs. Children need to be able to take out their own earrings for PE and swimming. If you are considering having your child's ears pierced please make sure this coincides with the 6 week holidays as children are not allowed to take them out for the first few weeks.

### Playground Equipment

Please can you help us to keep the children safe before and after school.

Unfortunately the playground equipment is to be only used during the school day and not to be used before or after school when it is not supervised.

Coming to school by scooter or bike is an excellent way to travel. Despite the playground being a great place to ride and scoot around this can cause a hazard for other children particularly younger siblings. Please can you remind your children not to ride their bikes and scooters on the playground before and after school.

### Medicines

We cannot administer any medication in school. If your child has been prescribed medication which needs to be taken at intervals during the day then please talk to your doctor about ensuring that these fit around the school day. If this is not

possible then you will need to arrange for someone to come into school to administer the medication.

If your child has a long term medical condition that requires medication then please contact the school office to discuss this.

All medications need to be handed in at the school office and a medical form completed.

Thank you for your support with this matter.

## School Meal Charges for the Autumn Term

Cost Per Day for Nursery	£2.40
<b>Cost for Junior Children</b>	
Per Day	£2.50
Per Week	£12.50
First Half of the Autumn Term (39 days)	£97.50
Second Half of the Autumn Term (35 days)	£87.50
Whole of the Autumn Term (74 days)	£185.00
Funday Friday Whole Term	£37.50

## Class Assemblies

Date	9.15am Start	9.45am Start
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	3 - Cedar	1 - Beech
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	4 - Cherry	2 - Birch
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	5 - Chestnut	Rec - Ash & Rec - Elm
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> October	6 - Mulberry	2-Maple
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	3 - Hazel	1 - Holly
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	4 - Willow	

Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	5 - Sycamore	
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	6 - Hawthorn	

Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Comic Relief (Red Nose Day)
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Last Club
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> Apr	Cowley's Got Talent
Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Children finish at 1.15pm

### Autumn Term Dates 2018

Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> Sept	String Lessons Start
Tues 11 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Guitar Lessons Start
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Clubs Start
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Meet the Teacher Week KS2
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> Sept	Year 3 trip to Celtic Harmony
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Meet the Teacher Week KS1 and Reception Class
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Year 5/6 School Journey to Aylmerton
Weds 24 <sup>th</sup> October	School Photographer
Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> Oct - Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	Half-Term
W/C Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Book Fair
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Parent Consultation Appointments 1.10pm to 8pm
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> Nov	e-Safety evening
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Non School Uniform donations for the Christmas Fair
Thur 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Last Club
Tues 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10am - Nursery/Reception Performance
Tues 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	1.30pm - KS1 Performance
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Dinner
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	1.45pm Nursery/Reception Performance
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	6.30pm - KS1 Performance
Thur 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	3.15pm - Carol Concert
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Children finish at 1.15pm

### Spring Term Dates 2019

Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Children back
Fridays from 11 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Year 5 Swimming
Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Clubs Start
Tues 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan	New Year Disco 3pm to 7.30pm (class times TBC)
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb - Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Half-Term
W/C 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Book Fair
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Parent Consultation Appointments 1.10pm to 8pm
W/C 11 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Science week
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Science Evening

### Summer Term Dates 2019

Tue 23 <sup>rd</sup> Apr	Children back
Fridays from 26 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Year 6 Swimming
W/C 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATs
W/C 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 2 SATs
Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Half-Term
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> June	School Photographer
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> June	New Parents Meeting Nursery - 6pm Reception - 7pm
W/C 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Phonics Screening Week (Year 1&2)
W/C 10 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> June	RSE Weeks
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> June	FSU Sports Day (am)
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Year 1 to 6 sports Day (all day)
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> June	No Swimming for Year 6
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> June	INSET DAY
Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Non School Uniform donations for the Summer Fair
Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Residential School Journey parent Meeting
Thur 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Last Club
Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer Fair
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup> July	1.30pm Year 6 Performance - Dress Rehearsal
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> July	7pm Year 6 Performance
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Moving Up Day
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Open Evening 6-7pm
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Presentation evening 5-7pm
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Children finish at 1.15pm

## **Term Dates for 2018/19**

### **AUTUMN TERM 2018**

Tuesday 4th September to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December  
Half-Term Week - Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October to Friday  
2<sup>nd</sup> November

### **SPRING TERM 2019**

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April  
Half-Term Week - Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
February

### **SUMMER TERM 2019**

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July  
Half-Term Week - Monday 27<sup>th</sup> to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May  
No School - 24<sup>th</sup> June

Jon Hood

**Headteacher**