

Catherine Infant News!

We are all stars

Newsletter: November 2018



Dear Parents and Carers

This term has been very much about welcoming parents into school. We have been pleased to see many of you at our year group expectations meetings. We are always pleased to work with parents to provide a successful education for children. There was a good turn out of parents to the E Safety meetings both for the Gujarati meeting and the meeting held in English. Helping our children to stay safe online is one of our biggest priorities. Many of you attended our Navratri celebrations just before half term where our children were able to enjoy dancing with friends and family.

Last week we welcomed so many of you to our Diwali celebrations. I am sure you will agree that the Year 2 children performed the Diwali story to a very high standard. I could tell from watching all the parent's faces how much you all enjoyed seeing the children perform. Thank you so much for the excellent feedback and comments I received from you afterwards. A massive thank you must also go to our year 2 staff who worked so hard to ensure children were well rehearsed, word perfect and knew all the acting and dance moves. A big thank you to you too for providing costumes and dressing your children so beautifully for the play.

Pupils have been enjoying several trips lately with Year 2 visiting the "Museum of the Moon" at the Belgrave Neighbourhood Centre. Year 1 have continued to visit the Attenborough Arts Centre and to work with resident artists towards receiving their Artsmark award. This term Year 1 have studied the work of Yinka Shonibare – a world renowned artist. Yinka has donated some of the fabrics he uses in his art to school for the children to work with. Children's art will be installed in the hall over the next couple of weeks and parents and children will be able to come to an exhibition for children to show off their work to parents.

Reception Pupils have enjoyed visits to Belgrave Library and the local area. Going out on visits is an important part of the work we do to educate our children – providing opportunities for them that they might not otherwise have had and providing an exciting hook on which to base topic work.

As we move towards Christmas there are several other events to note in your diaries. Please see the forthcoming dates listed below.

I would just like to say how much my staff and I have enjoyed carrying out gate duty in the mornings and afternoons. We all appreciate sharing morning and afternoon greetings with you and the children, chatting about school matters and seeing all those shared home learning projects coming into school. If you have any queries or questions please do ask staff on the gates and they will direct you to the most appropriate form of help. As always, I can be contacted via the office or by phoning the office to make an appointment.

It is a pleasure working with you, your families and the people of Belgrave.

Best wishes

Mrs Harrold.
Head teacher



School Crossing Guide and Road Safety



Last week there was almost an accident near to our crossing where a car nearly hit parents and children who were not using the crossing, but dodging between the cars nearby to get across the road. The driver was very upset and visibly shaken. For your own safety and that of your children please can I ask all parents to use the crossing properly.

- *Do not dodge across the road through the traffic but use the crossing guide and the pedestrian crossing.*
- *Switch off your mobile phone and supervise your child.*
- *Set a good, safe example to the children.*

Follow us on Twitter @catherineinf

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www.catherine-inf.leicester.sch.uk | Headteacher: Mrs J Harrold



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Important Dates for your diary

Thursday 15th November – Road Safety Assembly for children “Be Bright Be Seen”.

Monday 19th November – Year 2 to visit the temple.

Tuesday 20th November – **Parents afternoon & evening.** A letter has been sent out for you to request an appointment to meet your child’s teacher and discuss their progress. We look forward to meeting you all.

Thursday 22nd November – Local authority in school to help parents apply for school places (2:30pm – 4:00pm)

Tuesday 27th November – Local authority in school to help parents apply for school places (8:45am – 10:45am)

Tuesday 27th November – Launch of school mural in hall featuring Yr 1 art work.

w/b 3rd December – **Book Fair Week**

Thursday 6th December – **Proposed Winter Fair.** Details will be sent out later. All offers of help gratefully received.

Tuesday 11th December – Yr 2 and reception Snow White trip at the Peepul Centre.

Tuesday 11th December – Yr 1 church visit.

Thursday 13th December – Yr 1 Snow White trip at the Peepul Centre.

Friday 14th December – **Christmas Jumper Day.** Pay £1 for Save the children and wear your Christmas jumper to school (or Christmas clothes).

Monday 17th & Tuesday 18th December – EYFS perform the Christmas story.

Wednesday 19th December – School Christmas Dinner.

Friday 21st December – Break up for Christmas Holidays at 3:15pm. School closed until 08/01/2018.

Tuesday 8th January 2019 – Children return to school.

School Attendance

Our attendance meeting in October was very well attended by many parents. We take attendance at school very seriously. It is well known that pupils who attend regularly have better life chances, succeed better at school in National tests and exams and have more successful and lasting friendships. Government requirements are that pupils must attend school 96.1% of the school year.

There has recently been an increase in parents wishing to remove their child from school for extended periods for visits and trips abroad. May we respectfully remind you that this absence will not be authorised and may incur penalty payments of £60 per parent per child. Your cooperation in bringing your child to school every day is much appreciated.

Safeguarding

Please ensure you collect your child promptly at 3.15pm and escort them safely off the premises. Whilst we welcome the children playing a little bit extra on the contender after school please remember that once they have been picked up children are the parent’s responsibility. Please supervise your child to avoid accidents and upsets.

In the interests of safeguarding we have to monitor who is on the school premises at morning and afternoon opening and closing times. With 400 children in school that is a lot of parents and carers coming and going. Please be vigilant and look out for strangers at these times. If you have friends with children at the juniors please encourage them to meet you away from the school premises.

Parents wishing to speak to Class Teachers

If you have a worry or concern about your child, or just a question to ask, please see your child’s teacher at the end of the afternoon as this is when they are able to devote time to helping you. The mornings are very rushed with registration at 8.55am followed by lessons starting at 9.00am. We operate a very tight timetable in order to fit in all the curriculum requirements. Your help with this is much appreciated.

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