

## Autumn 2018 Newsletter

It has been a busy term and the teachers and pupils have been working incredibly hard to implement the changes since January. Thank you to all those who joined us on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September to discuss the changes. In summary form, please see the notes below.

- A new assessment system that focusses on the individual.
- A new homework system.
- A new spelling system.
- A topic based approach.

Christmas has come around very quickly. Thank you all for supporting our fantastic Christmas performances. Thank you to Mrs Collins and the choir who have sung in a variety of community events to celebrate Christmas. We all wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.



Our Head girl and Head boy, Kitty and Zach Wish you a very merry Christmas.

### Staffing Update

We are all very pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Leo Ford, who will be joining us after Christmas in the role of Deputy Headteacher. Mr Ford will be a fantastic addition to our team.

We wish Mrs Gallagher all the very best for her retirement and thank her with all our hearts for the dedication and commitment she has shown for the last 39 years. She has made a positive impact on the lives of hundreds of young people and their families.

Mr Richards will not be returning to school.



Thank you to Mrs Collins and our wonderful choir who have represented our school at Norfolk Square on 20<sup>th</sup> December.

### Gold rewards

The gold system is designed to celebrate exemplary behaviour and pupils who are ambassadors of our school. The gold treat this half term was a building challenge with spaghetti and marshmallows. The pictures are on the new website.

Promoting and rewarding good behaviour is far more effective than consequences. However, if a pupil gets more than three reflection sanctions within a half term, they will not take part in gold treat, irrespective of how many golds they get. Pupils displaying gold behaviour are role models and ambassadors for our school.

## **Photographs permissions**

We are always making memories and having pictures and videos are a really important way of documenting your child's life. We are really happy for you to take pictures of school productions but we must insist that you do not put any pictures or videos of anyone else's children on the internet or print out. There are many reasons why some children cannot have their picture taken and the children could be put at significant risk of harm. I don't want to have to ban the taking of pictures.

## **Welcome to Reverend Toby May**

We welcome Reverend Toby May and his Wife Helen May to our parish. Mrs May will be joining our governing body as a foundation governor and we look forward to continuing to build strong links with the church.

## **Access Only and Disabled Parking**

The police have requested that we make our parents and people dropping off and picking up at school aware of the access only restrictions on Pikes Lane and Queen Street. Please do not use or park on these streets during the school run or at any other time. The police have warned that formal enforcement will be taking place in the future.

Parking is very difficult in the local area and it is often a challenge to park. Please be aware that we have pupils in school with registered physical and emotional disabilities. Please don't park in front of garages or in the disabled bays. Thank you for your continued support in this area.

## **Snack**

We are a healthy school and encourage all snacks to be healthy; such as fruit, healthy cereal bars and crackers. Food high in sugar is still important as part of a balanced diet and it is fine for special treats but for snack we would promote healthy eating.

Please be aware that we have pupils and staff in school with serious allergies to nuts and milk based products.

If there are any special requirements, please come in and see the class teachers.

## **Water in class**

Being hydrated is really important and pupils are actively encouraged to have access to water throughout the day. Some classes have cups and bottles in class and some pupils bring their bottles. Please see the class teacher if you are not sure.

## **Dinners and Sandwiches**

Currently pupils can choose either school dinners or sandwiches on a daily basis. In the coming weeks more information will be given about choosing in advance. This change is to reduce administration of school dinners daily and make it easier for the kitchen to plan ahead and order ingredients.

If a pupil forgets their packed lunch or there is a last minute change, that will be fine and a school dinner will be available.

## **Food and Clothing collection**

As you may be aware we collect food for local food banks. Unfortunately, not everyone in our local area have full cupboards. We have a food collection box in the main entrance throughout the year, please give generously.

We are also going to start collecting children's clothes, shoes, coats, school uniform, bedding and towels for our area and the clothing bank at the 'The Vibe'. We will collect throughout the year and when you have a clear out please bring the clothes in to school.

Our first event will be at 3:30pm after school on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January in the school hall. We have a small collection of children's clothes and uniform. Some of the items are unclaimed but washed lost property. All are

free to a good home and everyone is welcome. Plus, there will be tea and biscuits. Please call in if you are able.

If you want anything before then, please don't hesitate to contact Mr Woodward or send an email to school and items can be left for collection.

### **Communicating with school**

Our Philosophy here is to put the needs of the pupils first and meet the needs of each individual. We operate an open door policy and we can be contacted either by phone, coming in to see us, making an appointment or email. If you have any concerns or positive feedback, please contact the class teachers or myself. Please don't use facebook or social media to raise or discuss issues about school. We can only deal with issues if we know about them.

### **French Trip Meeting**

There will be a meeting for the parents of the pupils going on the French trip in April 2019 at 6pm at School on Monday the 14<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Attendance**

Attendance is very important for a whole range of reasons, including; learning, practising skills, forming and maintaining relationships with peers and adults, developing a sense of responsibility and learning important independent and social skills.

Please see the diagram below to show the importance of good attendance. There are often many unavoidable reasons for absence and pupils should only be in school if they are medically fit.

In line with national law and school policy, holidays will not be authorised. All requests for absence should be given to the office and each case will be looked at individually to see if the circumstances meet the agreed criteria and then the absence may be authorised.

From September, you will be notified half termly if your child's absence is below 95% and if their absence is below 90%, you will be asked to come in to school to discuss this. There are many reasons why absences may occur and this is a supportive system to enable the school to offer support in any way possible.

### **Online Payment**

We are looking into an online payment system to make payments easier and more efficient but due to the high running costs, it will not be this year. We will keep revisiting this and keep you informed.

### **Rotary Run**

Thank you to all the pupils and family members who took part in the run. We helped raised money for Macmillan Nurses.

### **E-safety**

E-safety wasn't a big consideration 20 years ago but is now one of the most important skills our pupils and ourselves need. Please keep checking our website for information that will help keep yourselves and pupils safe. Thank you to all the parents who attended the E-safety evening.

No Absence	10 days absence	12 days absence	19 days absence	29 days absence	38 days absence
190 days of education	180 days of education	178 days of education	171 days of education	161 days of education	152 days of education
<b>100%</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>80%</b>
<b>Very Good</b>		<b>Worrying</b>		<b>Serious Concern</b>	
Best chance of success. Gets your child off to a flying start!		Less chance of success. Makes it harder for your child to make progress.		Your child will find it very difficult to make progress. May result in court action!	

### Term Dates 2018 – 2019

<b>Autumn 1</b>	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2018 – Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2018
<b>Autumn 2</b>	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> November 2018 – Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2018
<b>Spring 1</b>	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2019 – Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2019
<b>Spring 2</b>	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> February 2019 – Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2019
<b>Summer 1</b>	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2019 – Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2019
<b>Summer 2</b>	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2019 – Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2019

### Insets 2018 - 2019

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2018
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2018
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2018
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2018
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2019

### School Dates

Date	Event	Information
<b>Autumn 1</b>		
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> Sept	PTA Meeting	7:15pm
Tue 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Roald Dahl Day	£1 voluntary donation for books for school Dress as a book character
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Parents Changes Presentation	6:30pm
Tue 9 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Individual Photographs	Details to follow
Tue 16 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Science Show	£1 voluntary donation
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Harvest service at church	9:30am – Parents and family welcome

Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct – Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> Oct	EYFS open week	Details to follow
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> Oct	PTA Film night	Details to follow
<b>Autumn 2</b>		
Tue 20 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Parents Evening	Details to follow
Thur 22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	Parents Evening	Details to follow
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Festive Fair	5pm – 7pm
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	KS1 and Rec in Church	6:15pm in church
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Nursery, reception and KS1 Christmas show	10am in church
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Year 3/4 Play	Details to follow
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas jumper day	Pupils and staff wear Christmas jumpers. £1 voluntary donation to charity
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Year 3/4 Play	Details to follow
Tue 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas dinner day	Details to follow
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas service at church	9:30am – Parents and family welcome
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	PTA Disco	Details to follow
<b>Spring 1</b>		
Tue 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	E-safety day	Details to follow
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Young Voices	Details to follow
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	PTA Film night	Details to follow
<b>Spring 2</b>		
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Lent church service	9:30am – Parents and family welcome
Thur 7 <sup>th</sup> Mar	World book day	£1 voluntary donation for books for school Dress as a book character
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Comic Relief	£1 voluntary donation for comic relief Wear something silly or pyjamas
Tue 2 <sup>nd</sup> Apr	Music Concert in church	Details to follow
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Easter service in charge	9:30am – Parents and family welcome
Thur 11 <sup>th</sup> Apr	PTA chocolate tombola	Details to follow
<b>Summer 1</b>		
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday	Pupils not in school
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> May – Thur 16 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 SATs	
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	PTA disco	Details to follow
<b>Summer 2</b>		
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Pentecost church service	9:30am – Parents and family welcome
Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Summer fair	Details to follow
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> Jul – Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Year 6 – St Phillip Howard transition week	Details to follow
Thur 11 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Year 5/6 play	Details to follow
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Year 5/6 play	Details to follow
Tue 16 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Music concert in church	6:30pm – Parents and family welcome
Thur 18 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Leavers service in church	9:30am – Parents and family welcome

Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Year 6 leavers assembly	Details to follow
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Year 6 leavers disco	Details to follow