

St. Mark's C.E. Primary

Sent:

19/10/2017 14:03:19

Dear Parents and Carers,

And so the first half term of a new academic year passes before it seems we have even had chance to catch our breath. We hope the first six and a half weeks have seen your child/ren thrive in their new class and look forward to more of the same for the remainder of the year. Please find below items for your attention.

Thank you

Can I begin by thanking each of you for your ongoing support for the school. Your generosity towards our Loaves and Fishes/Kearsley Food bank Harvest appeal was as incredible as always. You also helped raise £287.15 for Macmillan Cancer Support in attending our coffee morning (special thanks to Nicola Wellens for organising) and £535.79 for the school through your purchases at the recent Book Fair. In addition to financial support your turnout to induction meetings and workshops are truly appreciated.

Football and Cross Country Kit

Could we kindly ask that parents/carers of those children who have represented the school in football & cross country (including children who may now have left us for high school) to check that they have returned kits to school. As I'm sure you're aware our sporting calendar is well and truly up and running and we appear to be missing kits. Thanks in advance for taking the time to look.

PTA

Well done and thank you so much to the PTA for their nonstop work within the first half term of this year. The children and parents have already benefitted from two highly enjoyable events in the shape of the discos (thanks also to our resident DJ Mr. Slamon) and quiz night. They are already busy planning the Christmas fair and another highly popular 'bacon butty' morning.

Parent Council

Our Parent Council have also had a busy and productive start to the new year. They have met twice already and are now formulating their upcoming project on 'Staying safe online' alongside the School Council. If you have anything you would like them to consider tackling as part of the project, please send an email to school (marked for the attention of the Parent Council). As ever, new members are more than welcome.

Building and renovation work

A work in progress is how best to describe our current building and renovation work. We are hoping that all the roofing work will be complete within the next couple of weeks. In addition our new area within the KS2 playground looks set for completion around the same

time. We're also delighted to announce that there will now be another area under development within the KS2 playground from mid November. Exciting times ahead and thank you for your patience as we work through these changes.

Playground reminders

Can we ask all parents/carers for their help in ensuring children are not using the climbing wall, gym apparatus and adventure trail equipment before and after school. Furthermore can those dropping off/picking up ensure that no children swing on the netball posts on the KS2 playground.

Parking

Despite constant reminders there are still parents/carers parking in the school car park. Parents/carers are not permitted to use the school car park between the hours of 7:30am-5:30pm unless you, or a member of your family dropping off/picking up, have a problem with mobility or are collecting a sick/injured child. Dropping off at pre-school /WASP or running late at morning drop off/afternoon pick up are not legitimate reasons for parking on the school car park.

Breaks/Lunchtimes

Given the cold and damp weather ahead please can we ask that parents/carers send in an old pair of trainers for KS2 children. The reason for our request is so that they are able to use the climbing wall or adventure trail within the woodland at breaks/lunchtimes when it is their turn. Unfortunately those without will be unable to use the equipment due to the problem of school shoes being ruined and dirt walked in to classrooms and the buildings.

Congratulations

Finally, it gives me great pleasure to announce that Mrs. Whitehead is expecting her second child in February. Arrangements for cover in the absence of Mrs. Whitehead will be announced in due course after half term. Miss Bradbury, who is a teaching assistant in our Reception class, is also expecting her first child in January. I'm sure you join me in wishing both members of staff the very best for the future. We will also be sure to update you on news of Mrs. Gallagher's imminent new arrival when she/he arrives.

Please find attached our **Weekly News and Diary Dates**.

Thank you as always for your continued support. I hope the weather becomes more favourable over the next week or so and that you all have a lovely half term break.

Mr. D Kay