



JANUARY 2020

Headteacher's Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

It feels like a really long time since I last wrote to you via a newsletter. We send out lots of texts and e-mails and publish on Twitter which means we don't have so much to tell you via a newsletter but it is nice to catch up with you all from time to time, so here goes!

School Start Time: As you know, we have changed the time of school worship back to 9am from 10am previously. This allows us to make a prompt start to the day, gives us a good long learning run in the morning and frees up more staff to help pupils with catch up and interventions. It does mean that we need all children to be at school and ready for registration by 8.50am rather than previously when it was 8.55am. The school doors open at 8.40am so please try to get your little one to school in good time and not later than 8.45am. As a rule children hate being late for school and it can throw some children off for the full day as they struggle to adjust. Please arrive in good time. This extra 5 minutes will really help us make a positive start to the morning. Thanks.

Healthy Packed Lunches:

Please can we remind you that we are a healthy school and that we actively encourage you to send your little one to school with a healthy and balanced packed lunch. It has been brought to my attention that there are a lot of lunches containing juice, crisps and chocolate bars. Please try to avoid too much salt, sugar and fat as eating habits are formed at primary age and it would be fantastic if our children all ate healthy meals and snacks. We do not ban foods as such but would ask that you ensure your child is getting a healthy meal at lunch time and that their bottle is filled with water rather than juice for sipping throughout the day. Finally, we try where possible to be a nut free school so **PLEASE no nuts!** More advice and inspiration for healthy lunch boxes can be found here:



<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>

Parking...Again!

Please, please, please can I appeal to you all to park only in the marked bays in the church car park and to please be respectful of the favour that both the church and the Three Tuns pub do us by letting us use their parking facilities. Please park safely, switch off your engine and take great care when entering or leaving the area as there are children all over the place and an accident could be catastrophic. If possible, please park further away and walk a few hundred yards to school. This allows time for a chat with your children and to meet and greet other parents. We need to do all we can to reduce pollution and congestion around our school so where possible please walk or scoot to school. As you know we do not endorse pupils riding their bikes to school due to the dangerous roads. (but this is a decision for you as parents and if you wish to cycle to school with your little one that is entirely your choice). Let's see if we can make our school a safer and healthier place at pick up and at drop off times.

THURSDAY

5 MARCH

SAVE
THE
DATE

WORLD
BOOK
DAY

5 MARCH 2020

Late Payments: If you owe school a payment for music lessons, dinners, breakfast / after school club or trips, please could you do your best to pay on time or as soon as possible. It takes up so much administration time for our office ladies when they need to keep chasing payments. If you are unable to make a payment due to hardship or circumstances, please let us know as we may be able to help. Please don't let debts rack up. Many thanks.

School Attendance: This is a really big issue for us. We are currently just below our whole school attendance target of 97%. Our current attendance rate stands at 96.9% so we are very nearly there. I know that we can do this and I think we should be able to reach an attendance figure of 98%. I know that children are ill and we don't want poorly children at school and we do need children who suffer D and V to be off for 48 hours but please get children back to school as soon as possible and if you suspect a bit of 'swinging the lead' we will always call you if pupils are unwell at school. We can only authorise holiday in term time under the most exceptional of circumstances so please try to support our drive to have more of our children in school for more of the time. All research shows that good attendance leads to massively improved outcomes for children's learning over time. Give your little one the best chance to be their best. Send them to school every day. At the moment our best attenders are...Panther and Zebra classes. Their attendance overall is 97.8%! **BRILLIANT!** Well done to both classes. Now, can everyone else catch them?

Australia Bush Fire Aid: Our winners of our house point competition up until Christmas was Setthorns! Well done Reds! They decided they would like to make a donation to help relieve the problems caused by the Australian bush fires. This has now grown into us becoming involved in offering support to a particular school in Victoria which has been totally destroyed by the fire. You can find out more about the project soon but we intend to hold a "Love Australia Day" on Valentines day. Watch this space for more details. I am so proud of our pupils who are always so pro-active in wanting to help and make a difference. It is wonderful to see how motivated they are to be winning house points so that they can access money to give to charity. Giving them the choice of where these charitable donations go is also really important to them. Well done! Find out more information here :



<https://twitter.com/HeartNWNews/status/1215632309199740928?s=19>

VIP Jumpers:

Please can you ensure all VIP jumpers are returned, washed the following Monday after your child has been VIP. We are very low on sizes and have been unable to hand out jumpers to new VIP's, please please do return them!



Lost Property:

We have a huge amount of lost property in both lost property bins (front foyer and KS1). Please can you come and have a rummage and see if we can find some of these items a home.

Milk Bottle Top Recycling Scheme:

We are now collecting milk bottle tops.

- ◆ Tops must be washed clean
- ◆ Free of any paper, rubber or foil inserts

Please hand into the school office until we have a collection point confirmed.



THE CRISP PACKET RECYCLING SCHEME

ACCEPTED WASTE



Crisp Packet Recycling — please only put in the green wheelie bin clean empty packets, the green bin is NOT a rubbish bin!



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