



Monday 28 September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for the tremendous support for our fancy dress sponsored sport last Wednesday. The children and staff had a fantastic time as you can see from all the photos on ClassDojo. We have so far raised an incredible £1 949. Thank you for your generosity and to those of you who still want to donate (to help us get over that £2 000 mark) the site will remain open for another week. The link for the 'go fund me' website is:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/sponsored-fancy-dress-fun-run>

A reminder that Autumn is definitely in the air and despite the sunshine, it is much colder, and children need to have their (named) jumpers and coats in school particularly as we are keeping the classrooms well ventilated with windows and doors open.

Over the past few weeks we have been able to appoint additional support staff. Miss Kate Goddard joins us as teaching assistant in Blue and Yellow classes to help us with catch up interventions across the two classes. Kate comes to us from Netley Abbey Infants. We have also appointed additional lunchtime support staff, with children being in two discrete bubbles over this period we felt that Mrs Ashton and your children would benefit from more adults around. We have welcomed Mrs Humphries, Mrs Weeks, Mrs Kidson and Mrs Eldridge to the team and look forward to welcoming Mrs Crouch back soon.

### **Drop Off and Collection**

Each week, we are trying to improve our arrangements for drop off and collection whilst ensuring everyone remains safe. As the R rate is rising, it is even more important that we social distance at these times, so I would like us to make the following slight changes

- Children in Year 6 who are not waiting to be collected by an adult may leave the school through the hall door – to help reduce congestion.
- Please keep the pinch points at the wooden gates on the playground clear for parents to be able to overtake.
- Please ensure that if you are overtaking you do not walk in front of a parent collecting from the classroom door, but move out onto the wider space on the playground.
- Miss Pink will be on the gate at the end of the day and will be reducing the number of parents on the playground at any one time.

Unfortunately we have begun to notice some adults not leaving the school site immediately after drop off with groups chatting on the track! Once you have dropped off please can I ask you to move on as quickly as possible to avoid social distancing issues and congestion.

We are very grateful for your support in helping us to make it safe for us all.

## **Harvest**

A reminder that this Thursday 1 October will be our Harvest Festival. It is sad that we are unable to have visitors present, but we will upload photos and short film clips to ClassDojo for you. This year our theme will be 'caring for our community' as your food donations will be taken to the Winchester Night Shelter. I am very grateful to Mrs Higgins and Mrs Crowley for agreeing to speak to the children about their experiences as Street Pastors as part of our Harvest Festival.

## **October School Census**

Also on Thursday it is the annual Autumn census. This is an extremely important day for us because it dictates our future funding. One of the areas of importance is how many children in KS1 take a school meal on this day. In order to encourage your child to have a meal we are having a special lunch – Red: sausages, chips and baked beans. Green: cheese and tomato pizza, chips and salad. Pudding will be chocolate cake or fresh fruit.

## **DSA AGM**

The DSA held their AGM last Wednesday. Their fundraising was very much cut short without the summer fayre and school disco. Our thanks went to long standing members of the committee who are standing down this year: Katie Apps, Sarah Baird, Karen Clegg and Nina Robinson. They have all worked exceptionally hard over the years to support the DSA, raise funds and improve our school resources. We welcomed two new committee members, new parents to the school Heidi Hedges and Bryony Murray. Naomi Onisemo agreed to continue as chair, Sam Hamilton Vice-chair, Zoe Kirby Secretary and Jo Sharman and Bryony Murray as joint treasurers.

## **School Photographer**

Cardwell & Simons will be in school on Monday 16 November. Although we will be able to do photos with siblings who are already in school, unfortunately we will not be able to invite pre-school siblings to have their photo taken this year.

Finally a reminder that we will be holding parents evening by telephone next week. Please ensure that you have either returned the slip or emailed the school office to notify us of a convenient time to call. We will be sending out parents evening times in your child's book bag on Wednesday.

Kind regards

*Kirstie Baines*

Kirstie Baines  
Headteacher