

ISSUE

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Feb

2018



Newsletter

Dear Parents

Many thanks to those who have spoken to me about our pilot projects this term – the arrangements for relaxed entry and for parents' evenings. Relaxed entry appears to have been broadly popular with many parents enjoying the children having direct entry to the KS1 classrooms and appreciating the resulting quicker start to active learning which is taking place. Some concerns were raised initially around increased concentration of traffic in Arch Road due to the children all coming in at the same time, but this appears to have settled down now and is at least no worse than usual!

Feedback about parents' evening arrangements has been mixed, with some appreciating the opportunity for earlier slots in the school day but others finding the limited number of later slots challenging to balance with work commitments. We are keen to enable all parents to have the chance to engage with their children's learning and thus will look at increasing the number of later slots for future occasions. We will continue to monitor both pilot projects and will let you know how the arrangements will evolve for future terms.

As you may be aware, last weekend, there were intruders in the school grounds late on Friday night and the police were called. Although the intruders got onto the roof of the school, it appears that nothing was taken on this occasion. However the contents of the bike sheds, including scooters and bikes, were strewn across the playground and local gardens. The bike shed is locked overnight, but it appears that those who are determined can still get in. Following these events, we are suggesting that families no longer leave bikes or scooters on the school premises overnight.

Earlier on Saturday night, there was a very successful Quiz Night organised by the Parents' Association. This was a very enjoyable evening and also raised £482 for the school. The Parents' Association has been very supportive of the development of the school's resources and has agreed to fund two class sets of LearnPads" (like school iPads) and two sets of BeeBots (programmable robot toys) to support our children's learning in Computing. Last year's PA project (funding water saving taps and cisterns for the children's toilets) has also resulted in a good saving for the school in terms of water costs, meaning that there is a little more slack in the school budget to spend money directly on children's learning, rather than on water bills! Our huge thanks to the Parents' Association for all their efforts to support our school and our children.

Finally, on Monday this week our newly-formed Prayer Council presented their plans for their new role. Children from the Prayer Council wrote the assembly and presented it themselves, explaining to the school that they are volunteers who want to help to develop the school's prayer life and bring all children closer to Jesus. They read the Gospel story of Jesus telling the disciples:

"Let the little children come to me and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the Kingdom of God belongs."

The Prayer Council hopes to help all children in our school to enjoy God's creation all around them and their first plan is to refresh our Prayer Garden with bulbs and bird-feeders, ready for the children to use at lunchtimes in the spring and summer. We can all look forward to those brighter springtime days ahead!

All best wishes for the weekend, Catherine Burnham

FRONT GATES Following a Surrey County Council Risk Assessment, the car park and pedestrian gates will be closed during school hours. If you come into school during this time please be sure to close the gates behind you. Thank you.

PARENTS' EVENING CAR PARKING—There will be parking available in the KS2 playground from 2.30pm on both days.

CLUB NEWS A reminder that due to Parents' Evenings next week, the following school-run clubs will not be going ahead: Environmental/Forest Schools (Monday), Irish Club, Cooking, Yrs 5+6 Football, Fun with Fabric, Computing (all Tuesday), Netball (Thursday), Hockey (Friday). Also cancelled are All Saints and St Erconwald Singers, Tennis (Wednesday) and Judo (Thursday).

RECEPTION HEIGHT AND WEIGHT MEASUREMENT takes place on Monday 5 February.

KS2 LUNCHESES FOR NEXT HALF TERM

From Monday you will be able to book full time and part time lunches for next half term. A reminder that we are not able to provide any lunches until all outstanding balances are cleared. Full time lunches will be £63.00 and part times lunches will be £22.50 Thank you.

SCIENCE WEEK The week of 19 to 23 March will be a dedicated Science Week. If you work in science related fields we would be very pleased if you could come in and talk to the children about your work. Please contact Mrs Hanlon via the school office. Thank you.

YEAR 6 MATHS WORKSHOP

"First we put squares and triangles on a piece of paper to match the picture behind the puzzle. Next, we were finding areas with cubes. After that we had jigsaw pieces and were allowed to make whatever we wanted. Together, we made the best triangle pattern on the floor—this was our favourite." *By Annabel, Maddy, Ryan, Oscar, Isabella and Shayna.* For the full report, please look on the website.

YEAR 6 RUNNERS UP IN DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT

"On Friday Year 6 went to a Dodgeball tournament at Cleves School. We played 9 games, lost 2, drew 2 and won 5. Overall we came second out of 10 schools. We had a great time! *By Lilia* For a full report please see the website.

POSITIVE PARENTING COURSE

Positive Parenting is running a course for parents/carers of teenage children at St John's Church in Walton. Although the course started on 15 January, they are keen to make it available to anyone who is still interested. Please look on our website for more information.

PA NEWS Year 1 raised £147 and year 6 raised £130 on **cake sales**.

Tickets for the **Valentine's Disco** are still available until next Wednesday. Please see attached information on how to buy tickets - tickets will not be available on the night.

Please note that phones and cameras should not be brought to the disco. Thank you.

EFFORT AWARDS

Red	Imogen S	Maia D	Ruby	Noah H	Ozzy R
Orange	Freddie P	Oscar S	Coral	Ella S	Lucy W
Green	Oliver B	Edward B	Opal	Emme D	John-Joe H
Yellow	Isabella C	Ishani C	Sapphire	Luee S	Niamh W
Violet	Jemima B	Zoe Grace C	Emerald	Martyna B	Daniel G
Blue	Jude W	Emilia B	Garnet	Oscar B	Charlotte N
Topaz	Sean C	Alicia T	Amethyst	Ryan C	Emma P