



Dear Parents / Carers,

October 2017

Autumn Term Newsletter

Autumn Charity Appeals

I am extremely pleased to write to inform you that we raised £356.00 at our recent Macmillan Cancer Support coffee / refreshment day – a tremendous sum! As a school we thank everyone for their kind and generous donations of cakes – we were overwhelmed by the number of cakes and their creative designs. Thank you.

In addition, we were again overwhelmed by your Harvest donations to The Good Shepherd. They have been collected and as the driver said, “What a tremendous response!” Again, thank you.

Diwali

As a school we will be celebrating Diwali on Thursday, 19th October. Within each year group, children will be taking part in a wide range of activities learning about the ancient festival and its meaning and symbolism of the victory of light over darkness and good over evil. Children are invited to wear cultural dress if they would like to or simply dress in bright colours. We look forward to developing childrens’ understanding and respect regarding this celebration.

There will also be a Diwali menu on Thursday, 19th October : Chicken Breast Fillets with Korma or Tikka Masala Sauce or Red Lentil and Pea Dahl, served with a choice of Aloo Gobi, Rice or Chips. Mini Naan Bread, Cucumber and Mint Yoghurt. Mixed Salad followed by Ice Cream Roll.

Staff Charity Walk

You may recall a previous newsletter informing you of our staff’s charity walk in memory of Freya Powers, one of our former Year 1 pupils who lost her battle with cancer last April. Many of us took part in the charity walk starting at Wombourne Railway Station raising £1427.78 for both Birmingham Childrens’ Hospital and Ronald McDonald House. To those of you who sponsored staff, thank you.

Autumn Term 2 Dates for your Diary

Wednesday, 18th & Thursday, 19th October – Parent Consultations.

Thursday, 19th October – Year 3 Diwali Assembly – 9:00 am.

Monday 23rd – Friday 27th October – Half Term.

Tuesday, 31st October – Year 6 visit the National Holocaust Centre and Museum.

Wednesday, 1st November – Years 1-4 Disco.

Thursday, 9th November – Year 6 Remembrance Assembly at St. Alban’s Church.

Monday, 13th November – INSET Day – School closed to pupils.

Tuesday, 14th – Friday 17th November – Year 6 Height and Weight Checks by School Nurses.

Friday, 17th November – Year 5 Children in Need Assembly 9:00 am.

Wednesday, 22nd November – Year 5’s visit to Warner Brothers Studio – meeting time / place to follow.

Friday, 1st December – Christmas Fair 3:30 pm.

Thursday, 7th December – Year 1 Christmas Assembly 9:00 am.

Reception’s visit to Telford Wonderland.

Thursday, 14th December – Reception’s Christmas Assembly.

School Christmas Dinner.

Tuesday, 19th December: Rec – Year 4 Christmas Parties.

Wednesday, 20th December – Year’s 4-6 Christmas Carol Concert at St. Alban’s Church

End of Term

School Nurse Drop in Session

We would like to trial a medical drop-in session here at school between 8:30 – 9:30 am. The drop in will be led by our School Nurse on Tuesday, 14th November. If you have any medical questions or concerns about your child / ren please feel free to attend this trial drop-in in our private meeting room in our school's main entrance hall. If the session proves to be popular, further sessions can be planned on a more regular basis.

Reading Book Amnesty

I would like to appeal to all our children to undertake a search at home for any school reading books including Oxford Reading Tree Scheme books. Having supplemented all reading stage books last year, many are missing which is limiting our childrens' reading skills as they are not accessing the full range of reading genres. If books are found at home, please hand them in to the school office or ask your child/ren to return them to the correct storage box or library shelf.

Nationally we are seeing a significant reduction in school budgets despite rising costs associated with schools. It would therefore help us financially if books could be found and returned. Thank you.

Road Safety Concerns

As I frequently write, concerns still exist regarding the driving and parking in Ryan Avenue. I am repeatedly receiving reports about cars driving at speed down the cul-de-sac, mounting pavements and reversing with no due regard to children walking as pedestrians. Can I please urge extreme care to prevent any likelihood of an accident happening.

School Winter Uniform

Upon returning from half-term children must wear our winter uniform consisting of:

Girls: Grey skirt / pinafore / tailored trousers; apple green shirt; brown v-necked jumper or cardigan; tie; grey / white / black tights or socks.

Boys: Grey trousers; apple green shirt; brown v-necked jumper; tie. Green polo shirts are not acceptable as part of our winter uniform.

Suppliers of our apple green school shirts is limited – they can be purchased from: Clemmy's of Darlaston, Kids Corner, Showell Circus, Uniform stall on Walsall and Willenhall markets. School jumpers and cardigans with the school emblem on are available from the school office, as are elastic and straight ties.

I also stress our school rules regarding the wearing of black school shoes; no trainers are allowed. In addition, ear-rings must be of a stud nature for health and safety reasons.

Parent Consultations

As detailed in the diary dates' section, Parent Consultations take place next week. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible. If you are unable to attend either of the meetings, please discuss with your child's class teacher an alternative mutually convenient time. The consultation will provide you with a time to view your child's books and progress to-date and to receive targets to support your child's learning at home. Our kitchen staff will also be present for you to sample a typical school dinner meal.

Prospective New Parents' Meeting

On Tuesday, 31st October, 9:30am and Tuesday, 7th November 3:30 pm, we have planned prospective new parent meetings. This is an opportunity to learn about the structure and organisation of our school and to undertake a tour. If you know anyone with a child due to start September 2018, please inform them of these dates. Thank you.

A busy half-term awaits us but we look forward to all diary events and to your continued support. In the meantime, I wish the children a safe and happy half-term,

Yours sincerely,

Mr. S. Arnold
Headteacher

