



Cubbington C of E Primary School

Our aim is as simple as ABC

Achieving, Belonging, Caring

9th September 2016

Newsletter No.1

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you all had a great summer holiday. It has been lovely to catch up with all of the children and find out what they got up to. All classes have been extremely busy this week and it always amazes me how quickly the routines fall into place. Mrs Varney and her team have been out visiting the new Wrens in their homes this week and we look forward to welcoming them into school next week.

We have welcomed Miss Watts as our new Year 5 teacher and Mrs Hughes as a teaching assistant in Year 4. We extended our congratulations to Mrs Maunder who got married in the holiday and has returned to us as Mrs Bradley.

School procedures

Please could you ensure the following school procedures are followed. It ensures a smooth start to the school day and helps the children settle into their learning:

- Children should be in school by 8.55am at the latest – if your child is unavoidably late they should come to the school office where they will be marked late in the register.
- Children should not be brought to school before 8.45am and left unsupervised. We cannot take responsibility before this time and ask that children remain in your care. We are responsible for your children from 8.45am.
- If your child will not be at school due to illness or a medical appointment please inform the office directly.
- If your child is going to be late into school due to a medical appointment and requires a school dinner please ensure you telephone the office before 10.00am to book the dinner.
- As far as possible, any changes to collection of children after school should be notified to the office before 12.00 noon – this ensures that a message can be given to the teacher at lunchtime and not in the afternoon which disrupts a lesson. It is particularly important to also inform the office if you are unable to collect another child as previously arranged with a parent – this ensures that the right message gets to all concerned.
- If changes are made involving children going to Schools Out please contact them directly on 07778 542249.

Garden of Eden

Our Gardeners are always looking for more volunteers to help to maintain the garden and work alongside the children. If you have any time to spare and are a bit green fingered then please pop in to see us.

Safeguarding update

I have attached a document to this newsletter which outlines our key safeguarding principles from the policy. Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility and I hope that you take some time to have a look at this short summary document.

Cashless system

We no longer accept cash or cheque payments for any items - trips, dinner money, swimming, sports clubs and music. Parents have been reminded of their Parentpay logins and we ask that you use this as your method of payment. If you have difficulty accessing the Parentpay site pop into the office and have a word with Miss Perry.

Our Christian Value this half term is TRUTH



School Uniform

Please would you ensure that each item of your child's school uniform is clearly named. If your child mislays an item they should check in the lost property buckets in the hall – naming items should enable clothes to be returned to their rightful owner.

Please note also that fleece jackets should only be worn outside and not as a replacement sweatshirt/jumper/cardigan in the classroom. We have been very pleased with how smart the children have looked on their return and expect the high standards to continue through the year.

Important dates

Class teachers will be holding welcome meetings for parents on these dates:

Tuesday 13th September: 5.00pm-Year 3, 5.30pm Year-4, 6.00pm-Year 5, 6.30pm-Year 6

Thursday 15th September: 5.00pm-Reception, 5.30pm-Year 1, 6.00pm-Year 2

These meetings are an opportunity for you to meet your child's class teacher and find out about daily routines and areas of the curriculum that will be covered.

Monday 23rd September – 7.00pm PTA AGM at school. As a parent of a child at Cubbington C of E Primary you are automatically a member of the PTA and we would love to see you at the AGM and initial meeting. All are welcome to come along and hear how last year went: what they raised, what the money will be spent on plus other highlights and activities. There will also be the chance to join this year's committee if you are interested.

Friday 30th September - Harvest festivals: 9.30 KS1 and Reception, 10.30 KS2

Parents are welcome to attend these services in St Mary's church and we will be asking for donations of food nearer the time.

Wednesday 12th October – 6.00pm Parents workshop on E-Safety and 'The Taking Care' project. More information to follow

Tuesday 18th October – Phonics evenings 6.00pm Reception 6.30pm Year 1 and 2

Thursday 24th November and **Tuesday 29th November** – Parents evenings

Thursday 8th December 2.30pm and **Friday 9th December** 9.30am – KS1 and Reception Christmas production

Wednesday 14th December 2.30pm – KS2 Carol Concert

Sharing Assemblies

Sharing Assemblies will continue to take place on Friday mornings starting at 9.10am. These are the allocated dates for this term. We hope that you are able to come and join us to find out what your child has been learning about with their class.

14 th October	Swallows Year 2
21 st October	Hérons Year 4
4 th November	Kingfishers Year 3
11 th November	Swifts Year 1
18 th November	Kites Year 6
25 th November	Kestrels Year 5
2 nd December	Wrens Reception

*All dates are subject to change and we will let you know as quickly as possible if things have to be altered.

Parent helpers

Thank you very much to all parent helpers and volunteers who have helped in school in the past, it has often proved invaluable to the teachers and we are very grateful.

If you would like to volunteer to help in class and have not done in the past please contact the office to receive the relevant information and paperwork. New volunteers will require a safeguarding interview with Mrs Jones.

If you think you might help during any occasion in school this year it is worth organising a DBS check at the start of the year. Please see Miss Perry in the office to get this started.

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LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME 2016-2017 – INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

In September 2013, the Government introduced some significant changes to attendance regulations for pupils at school. The regulations will continue to apply during this academic year (2016/2017).

The most important of these is in relation to term-time leave of absence.

The amendments set out in Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013, govern all requests for leave within term-time. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law.

The amended regulations removed references to 'holiday' and 'extended leave', as well as the statutory threshold of 10 school days. It is now clear that Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. If the leave is granted, head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

The Government has not defined 'exceptional circumstances' as referred to in the 2013 regulations. It is for the Head Teacher to decide what he/she views as 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

We greatly appreciate parental support to reduce the total amount of days lost due to holidays. We are committed to working in partnership with you to enable your child to reach their academic targets and to support their social development. For this to happen we need to keep individual attendance as high as possible - we all need to play our part. **Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.**

Thank you from staff

The staff would like to say a big thank you for all of the lovely cards and gifts that they received from the children at the end of the last academic year.

I hope that you have an enjoyable weekend.

Kind regards,

Juliet Jones
Head teacher