

CAGE GREEN NEWSLETTER

"FOR EVERY CHILD TO REACH THEIR POTENTIAL"

December 2016



Dear Parents/Carers and Children,

Welcome to the December and some may say the Christmas edition of the Cage Green Newsletter.

It's been a very busy month with lots of events happening in and around school. I would like to say a big thank you to all of the children, parents/ carers who kindly donated money to Children in Need. We raised £254.02 and all the children (and staff) looked fantastic with their spotty accessories.

As the weather is becoming more wintery it would seem an appropriate time to remind parents of the 'Winter Closure Routine'. Extreme bad weather can cause widespread and prolonged disruption. Schools are often affected and it can be difficult to maintain an education service.

As a fundamental principle every effort must be made to keep schools open, even if only limited numbers of pupils can attend. However schools may close due to 'unavoidable' circumstances. Those circumstances being that it is no longer safe for staff or pupils to be onsite.

We recognise that it is important our school remains open so parents are able to work and pupils can continue to learn. **Cage Green School** will make every effort to prepare for severe snow/ice this winter by gritting pathways and clearing access points

If we do experience severe snow/ice resulting in hazardous conditions, I may have to take the decision to close the school. Once this decision has been made we will notify parents via the Kent Closures website as well as the Cage Green website. To determine whether the school is open or closed please visit www.kentclosures.co.uk and search for the school in the search box. The Kent Closures website can also be used to find out if other services in Kent are open or closed, such as nurseries, children's centres and libraries. We also recommend parents sign up for SMS/Email alerts on the Kent Closures website. This service will send an SMS or email alert to let parents know if Cage Green Primary School is closed. Parents can also listen to KMFM, BBC Radio Kent or Heart FM to hear if the school has closed.

Please visit www.kent.gov.uk/winter for more information about gritting routes and travel issues around Kent so you can plan your journey. Also can I ask parents/carers to:

- Provide a packed lunch from home in case school meals cannot be provided
- Supply your children with warm clothing—gloves, hats, scarves, wellies, etc. or even a change of clothing
- Put in a back-up plan with another family member if you are a working parent and you may have a problem with a sudden earlier pick up. This would allow staff to leave earlier for their safety if weather dictates

Remaining with the Christmas theme, our PTFA organised a fantastic Christmas Fair on 3 December which many of you attended. As well as the many stalls, the school was fortunate to have a visit from Father Christmas and a place where the children could purchase a present for somebody at home. I'm sure you are all looking forward to that. The PTFA will be announcing shortly in their newsletter the final fundraising figure but I would like to take this opportunity to thank all that were involved in making the event such a success.



Clubs

You should be in receipt of the Club Options List for Terms 3 and 4. Please complete the form with your child(ren) and return it to school as soon as possible so that we can get the clubs up and running, week commencing 9 January 2017. Please talk to your child(ren) about the importance of committing to a club, and remind them that if they sign up, they should attend every week unless they have a valid reason not to (eg illness etc). Pupils who do not attend regularly may be asked to leave the club so that their place can be offered to another child.

PE Kit

Just another reminder about PE kit—it is essential you provide your child with a track-suit and trainers for outdoor PE as well as any outside clubs your child is involved in. School jumpers are not allowed to be worn for PE and plimsolls are not suitable for use on a wet, muddy field. PE is a vital part of the national curriculum and will take place in all conditions as long as the school deems it safe to do so.



House Points

As in previous terms, the winner of the House competition will be decided on Friday, 16 December. The winning House will be the one that has collected the most amount of tokens—the reward being the opportunity to wear their own clothes (non-uniform) on the last day of this term (Wednesday, 21 December).

And finally....

Can I take this opportunity to wish all parents/ carers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The school will close for the Christmas break on Wednesday, 21st December at 3.15 pm for KS1 and 3.20 pm for KS2 and re-open on Tuesday 3rd January 2017. Please remember to continue to read with your child(ren) over the holidays .

This concludes this months newsletter and the next one will be published in early January 2017.

Yours sincerely

G Garthwaite

Headteacher



