

CAGE GREEN NEWSLETTER

"FOR EVERY CHILD TO REACH THEIR POTENTIAL"

December 2017



Dear Parents/Carers and Children,

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

The first part of my newsletter this month I write with sadness - I'm sure many of you may know Mrs Duckworth had been bravely fighting cancer for the last five years but unfortunately she passed away on the morning of Saturday 2 December. She had worked at Cage Green since 2004 and showed great dedication and commitment in her teaching and had a particular interest in Modern Foreign Languages which she shared with pupils throughout the school. She will be fondly remembered by staff and pupils in the Phoenix Centre and main school and will be sadly missed. When we return to school in January we, as a school, will look to see how we can remember Mrs Duckworth through charitable fundraising in her honour. If any of your children are affected by this sad news, please come and speak to us and we can provide any support that is needed. Coincidentally, the School Council had voted Cancer Research as the main charity for this year and if anyone would like to donate any money to try to eradicate this cruel disease, then please do so via the collection buckets at the Christmas Carol Service. I have included the link below for the Cancer Research website if any parent/carer would like to donate directly.

<https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/>

Our deepest condolences go out to all of Mrs Duckworth's family and friends, especially her three children, who I'm sure we will be thinking about at this difficult time.

PTFA Christmas Fair

I would like to thank all members of the PTFA and school staff for all their hard work and dedication in organising such a fabulous Christmas Fair. I would also like to thank all the parents/carers who kindly donated the many items that the fair needed over the last few weeks. Some of the children's 'wacky hair' and crazy socks were very impressive.

The whole event went very smoothly and had a real Christmassy feel about it. Also a big thank you to Father Christmas and all his helpers for visiting the school during such a busy time and I know the children (and maybe a few adults) enjoyed telling him what they would like for Christmas. I believe the total raised was in excess of £3500 and the PTFA and myself will be investigating ways to spend the money for the benefit of the children and their learning.

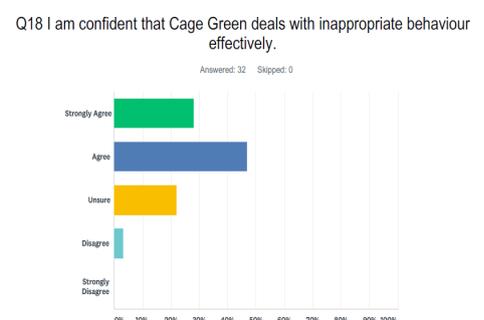
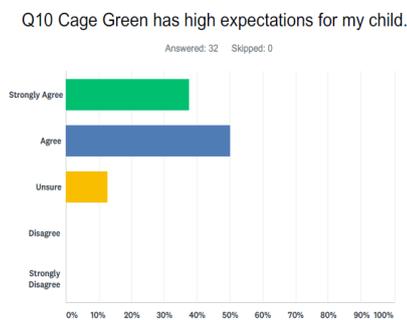
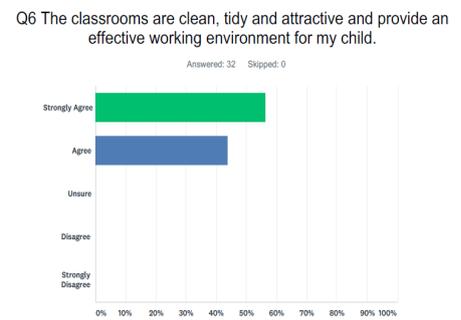
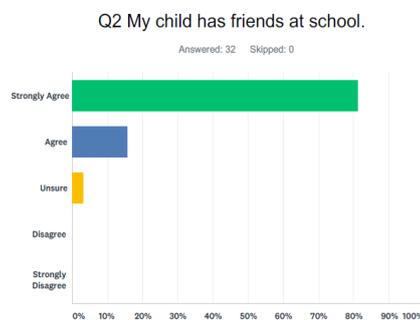
There will be many festivities over the next week or so on the theme of Christmas and I know the children are starting to get very excited. Many of you saw the wonderful Christmas Tree and hoops on Saturday and rehearsals are well underway for the Year R Nativity Performance which will take place on Friday 15 December at 2.15 pm. Before that we have our Christmas Dinner on Wednesday 13 December which will run from 11.45 am through to 1.30 pm. With that in mind could I please ask parents/carers of children in Years 5 and 6 in particular, to provide your child with a snack which he/she can have at break time - some of our older children may not start eating until 1.15 pm due to the number of children having Christmas dinner.

Monday 18 December sees the return of the Christmas Parties which will take place in the afternoon within your child's classroom and the term finishes with our annual Christmas Carol Service on Wednesday 20 December. **Key Stage 1** performance will begin at **10 am** and **Key Stage 2** at **2 pm** at the Baptist Church. As in previous years the children will return to school following both performances, due to the children needing to collect all their belongings. Thank you in advance for support in this matter.

Parental Questionnaire

A big thank you to all of the parents/carers who took time to complete our Parental Questionnaire. Your answers are invaluable in planning for the future of Cage Green Primary School as well as providing evidence that the decisions we make are having the desired effect on the education and wellbeing of your children. As I've said in the past, all decisions I take at Cage Green are in the best interests of the children's education.

Here are some of the highlights from the questionnaire (I'm sure the pictorial representation is better than a host of words).



A full breakdown of the Parental Questionnaire is attached as part of this email.

On behalf of the school can I please wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. School starts again on Thursday 4 January 2018 and the next Newsletter will be published on Friday 2 February 2018.

Yours sincerely

G Garthwaite

Headteacher

Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 13th

Christmas Dinner Day

Friday 15th

Year R Christmas Nativity Play, 2.15 p.m.

Christmas Jumper Day

Monday 18th

Christmas Parties

Tuesday 19th

Phoenix Centre Assembly, 2.00 p.m.

Wednesday 20th

Carol Services at Tonbridge Baptist Church

Years 1 & 2, 10.00 a.m.

Years 3-6, 2.00 p.m.

Last Day of Term

January 2018

Thursday 4th

Children Return to School

Friday 12th

1W Class Assembly, 2.30 p.m.

Friday 19th

5F Class Assembly, 2.30 p.m.

Monday 29th

Year 6, Young Voices, 02 Arena

February

Friday 2nd

4S Class Assembly, 2.30 p.m.

Tuesday 6th

Safer Internet Day

School Term Dates - 2017/18

Term 2

Monday 6 November - Wednesday 20 December 2017

Christmas Break - Thursday 21 December to Wednesday 3 January 2018

Term 3

Thursday 4 January - Friday 9 February 2018

Winter Half Term Break - Monday 12 to Friday 16 February 2018

Term 4

Monday 19 February - Thursday 29 March 2018

Easter Holidays - Friday 30 March to Friday 13 April 2018

Term 5

Monday 16 April - Friday 25 May 2018

(Monday 14 May - Friday 18 May - Y6 SAT's Week)

May Bank Holiday Half Term - Monday 28 May to Friday 1 June 2018

Term 6

Monday 4 June - Tuesday 24 July 2018