

# CAGE GREEN NEWSLETTER

"FOR EVERY CHILD TO REACH THEIR POTENTIAL"

March 2015



Dear Parents/Carers and Children,

Welcome to the March edition of the Cage Green Newsletter.

We are now into our second week of Term 4 and the children have returned with renewed vigour. On 5 March 2015, Cage Green Primary School and the Phoenix Centre for Autism welcomed Adrian Townsend, author of "Gran's Gang" to talk to the children about his career and how to succeed as a writer as part of World Book Day. Adrian worked for 24 years as a primary Headteacher in Oxford before having a career change to become an author and playwright. After describing the tools of his trade: his garden shed, a "comfortable" pen and a lined notebook, Adrian told his audience that his story usually begins with him asking "What if ...?" He retold a chapter from "Gran's Gang" which was followed by a Question and Answer session. Mr Townsend stressed that every day should be a "Book Day" encouraging children to read and write every day. The amount of parents/carers that queued to purchase one of his books was staggering which I believe shows the commitment and importance we all place on reading. This was also evident in the amount of reading comments in the Reading Record Books.

As we all know Red Nose Day is on Friday and to support the event the school is adopting the catchphrase 'Wear Something Funny for Money'. Therefore the children will have the choice to come into school with maybe an amusing hat or a funny pair of socks or something red. **All items are to be worn along with their full school uniform.** For taking part in this we are suggesting a donation of £1. A selection of children have organised various events throughout the week including a biscuit sale on Wednesday 11 March. These will be sold to the children for 50p so if you would like your child to take part please provide them with a small amount of money. Also since the official theme this year is 'Make Your Face Funny for Money' any photographs of the children taking part in this outside of school (Boys Brigade or Brownies for example) would be greatly appreciated - I hope to create a display similar to the Extreme Reading Challenge. Please send them into school through email if possible at [admin@cage-green.kent.sch.uk](mailto:admin@cage-green.kent.sch.uk)

During the week commencing 16 March the school will again be taking part in the 'Science and Engineering Week'. The week will be a mixture of class based activities as well as workshops and theatre productions in the hall. Due to the positive reaction from the children of last year's activities, we have many of them returning. Quantum Theatre will be performing 'The Starry Messenger' and Dr Gareth Francis will be hosting many workshops. This year we have ZooLab who will be working with Key Stage 1 looking at habitats and life cycles. All these activities are kindly being funded by the P.T.A. A full report of the week to be included in next month's newsletter.

A reminder that Parent Consultation Evenings will be held on the 29 and 30 April where you will be given the opportunity to discuss your child's progress as well as the next steps in his/her learning. Appointments will be available between 3.30 pm and 7.00 p.m. and any parents/carers with siblings, the teachers will endeavour to have both appointments on the same evening and within 30 minutes of each other. Further details will be sent out over the next few weeks.

I have included another copy of the school menu to allow parents/carers the opportunity to see if your child likes what is on offer each day. As you know there is always a vegetarian and jacket potato option—if your child would prefer any of these, please let the Class Teacher know at least the day before. This will ensure the children eat a substantial cooked meal at lunchtime.

**Persistent Lateness**

A polite reminder that the register closes at 9.10 a.m. and if your child arrives after this time, they will be marked down as unauthorised late. As stated previously if a child is marked down as late on more than 10 mornings in any one seasonal term, the school has a duty of care to that child to investigate the reasons. If reasons are deemed to be unacceptable then a penalty notice will be issued in the same way as unauthorised holiday. Thank you for your support.

**Residential Visits—Year 4 and Year 6**

A reminder that monthly payments for the Year 4 and Year 6 residential visits are now due. Any concerns please let the School Office or I know as soon as possible to avoid unnecessary letters being sent home. There are still places available for the Year 4 residential visit so any parents/carers interested please let Mrs Ellis know—to secure the accommodation I have requested, we need approximately 10 more children. Further details regarding both visits will be sent out in due course.

**Our African Bread by Amy 4M/C**

On Thursday 5 March, Year 4 baked their own African inspired bread. First, we had to choose our African flavour and design the bread. Next, we made our dough. Some children chose a basic white bread dough and others chose an enriched dough. We mixed, stirred, rubbed, tipped and poured. It was great fun! After we had made the dough we left it to rise. When the dough had risen we knocked it back, shaped it and added our flavour. Then, some people let it rise again; but others had to bake it. Those of us who had let it rise again then baked it. When we took it home we ate them and evaluated it.

**Rag Bags**

The school is taking part in a scheme called 'Rag Bags'. The 'Rag Bag' recycling scheme has been developed to provide regular fundraising for schools, clubs, nurseries and various organisations UK Wide. The scheme increases awareness about textile recycling and by increasing recycling rates we can help the environment by ensuring less material goes to landfill. The scheme is completely FREE, and our school will be paid for every kg recycled. The bags can be collected from the School Office or by requesting bags to be sent home via your child. We will have one day allocated for bags to be brought into school, the date of which will be confirmed in due course. I hope you can support the scheme.

**Staff Development Days**

A reminder that staff development days over the next two years are as follows:

**Academic Year 2015/16**

3 and 4 September 2015 (2 days)  
2, 3 and 4 November 2015 (3 days)

**Academic Year 2016/17**

31 October 2016 to 4 November 2016 (5 days)

Next newsletter will be published on Wednesday 1 April 2015.

Yours sincerely

G Garthwaite

