

# CAGE GREEN NEWSLETTER



May 2017

Dear Parents/Carers and Children,

Welcome to the May edition of the Cage Green Newsletter. I hope you all are enjoying the change of weather and let's hope it continues next week.

I would like to begin this month's newsletter by congratulating all the Year 6 children on the dedication and positive attitude they showed whilst sitting their end of key stage assessments. This was the second year of the revised assessments and it was again clear that the level of challenge had increased. I would encourage all parents of Key Stage 2 children to look at the 2017 Papers using the link below, in particular the level of understanding that is needed to be successful in the mathematics paper 2 and 3. This is where support at home is vital - asking your child to count in 7's as he/she is going up the stairs, challenging your child to calculate the change you expect to receive when doing your shopping, spotting different 2D and 3D shapes, the list goes on. As I've mentioned many times previously, education is a partnership.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum-assessments-practice-materials>

The results of the assessments will be included in the children's end of year report and will use the same language as last year (the same language will be used for KS1 and KS2 children):

- Foundations for the national expected standard
- Working towards the national expected standard
- Working at the national expected standard
- Working at greater depth within the national expected standard

Further clarification has been published from the Department for Education (DfE) and is available using the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/2017-national-curriculum-tests-for-key-stages-1-and-2-information-for-parents>

I would imagine our Year 5 parents/carers are starting to think about secondary transition and which school would best suit their child - as you know in Kent we have selective and non-selective schools. To assist in making the choice, the school will be holding an information evening on **Wednesday 7 June at 7pm**. This will focus on the process of applying for a secondary school whether it is selective or non-selective. The evening will also be an opportunity to find out about the material we will be using to teach the children about 'sex and relationships education' (SRE).

I'm pleased to announce that Miss Leppard is expecting her first child in October. She will continue as 2L's class teacher for the rest of this academic year, ensuring they have a successful transition to Year 3.

A further staff change is with regard to Mr Hall - we wish to inform you that Mr Richard Hall took the decision to leave Cage Green Primary School as of 30 April 2017. We take this opportunity to thank Mr Hall for his commitment to the school and to wish him every success for the future.



## Year 4 Residential Visit (report by Nicholas in 4S)

On Friday 28 April the children in Year 4 went on a trip to Margaret McMillan House in Wrotham. We arrived about 2.00 pm and left on Sunday afternoon. At the centre there were many activities and we had the chance to experience most of them. The whole centre was surrounded by trees.



The rooms either slept 2 or 4 and the beds were bunk beds. I shared with one of my friends and it was brilliant. My favourite activity at the centre was one called 'Thunderstruck' where the challenge was to stack as many crates on top of each other as possible without them falling down. There was also a very high climbing wall and our friends were belaying for us - this meant we had to put a lot of trust in our friends.

## Houses of Parliament Visit

One of my other favourite activities was the puzzle challenge which again we relied a lot on our friends to help us. And to top it all off, the food was amazing!!



## Leeds Castle and Tonbridge Castle (report by the children in Griffin class)

In the past couple of weeks Griffin class have been extending their learning to the outside environment and having adventures outside of school. On Monday 15 May we travelled on our mini bus to Leeds Castle to look at the magnificent features and to explore the grounds. We saw a moat, turrets and a courtyard, along with all the fine things inside the castle. Our visit was topped off by getting lost in the maze!! We all got a bit soggy but had a fabulous, tiring day!



On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May we again boarded our mini bus and escaped down to Tonbridge Castle, this time we looked at the ruins of a castle and climbed up to the Motte to the Keep. It was a long way up and we realised how hard it was for the enemy to attack the Keep. We noticed the river running close by and thought about how it could help the people living in the castle.

## Houses of Parliament (report by Sophie and Rory in 6E)

On Tuesday 16 May, the School Council and Head Boy and Girl went to the Houses of Parliament. After the mini-bus journey, we arrived, went through security and met our tour guide called Sam. We went to the Queen's Entrance, staircase, massive dressing room as well as the House of Parliament and House of Lords and the banquet room (which had two jaw-dropping paintings which together took 7 years to paint). We were lucky enough to hear the ringing of Big Ben whilst we were in the voting chamber. We also had a mini election and Toby and Rory won with a coalition. We had our lunch and then, unfortunately, it was time to head home. We all had a super fun day and we all learnt a lot.



## Bike Week

A reminder that 'Bike Week' starts on the 12 June and everyone is encouraged to cycle or scoot to school. This is a great opportunity for all the family to cycle or scoot to school to help alleviate the traffic around school at the beginning and end of the day. As an incentive, I will be holding a selection of cycle activities/challenges throughout the week as timetabled below:

Year 1 and 2 — Monday / Year 3 and 4 — Tuesday / Year 5 and 6 — Wednesday

(Please note these are only provisional dates and will depend on my availability during the week)



## Year 4 Residential Visit

The June newsletter will be published on Friday 30 June 2017.

Yours sincerely

Mr G Garthwaite  
Headteacher

