

CAGE GREEN NEWSLETTER

"FOR EVERY CHILD TO REACH THEIR POTENTIAL"

November 2017



Dear Parents/Carers and Children,

Welcome back to a new term - it definitely feels winter is upon us with the weather changing as well as the clocks.

I would like to begin this month's newsletter by thanking all the parents/carers who took time to source the fantastic costumes for the children taking part in Space Day and Roman Day. I know the children enjoyed the experience and seeing them take part in all the activities was brilliant - these days really do bring the 'learning to life' as you can see reading the accounts below.

Space Day - Year 1 and 2

"On Friday 10 November we dressed up as space characters and we had so much fun!! First we made space flying saucers in 2A's classroom. Then we went outside and fired some mini-rockets on small red machines. We also made planets out of card and they were amazing. Finally we made a selection of delicious space biscuits - they were very yummy."

(Written by Harmony and Jamie, 2s - Isla and Komeh 2A)

Roman Day - Year 3 and 4

"On Monday 13 November, Year 3 took part in Roman Day and dressed up in Roman costumes. We had been learning about Romans as part of our topic work. During the day we tasted wheat pancakes which are known as tortillas, as well as spicy radishes, honey, celery and pomegranate - all part of a Roman breakfast. Over all it was a really fun day for Year 3 and 4!"

(Written by the children in 3W)

The 2017 Cage Green Parent Survey went live just before the holidays and we have extended the date until 27 November. Therefore could I please encourage as many parents/carers as possible to complete the questionnaire using the link below. There will also be an opportunity to complete the questionnaire at the upcoming Parent Consultation Evenings this week.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/cagegreen2017>

As many of you know, I feel strongly that the school is the centre of the community and will endeavour to promote items of interest to all our parents/carers, either through our Community Board (which is now situated opposite the main entrance) or through newsletters. One item that I know has caused quite heated conversation within the school is the proposal to transfer the specialist breastfeeding support groups service to the Health Visiting Service. To see the proposals in detail please visit the website (link below) and within there is a link to the consultation questionnaire. The deadline for responses is Sunday 3 December 2017.

www.keepkentbreastfeeding.org

On 2 December it is our annual PTFA Christmas Fair and the PTFA are all busy organising everything as we speak. Can I thank all those parents/carers that made donations last week and remind you that we have two more donation days over the next two Fridays. Also anyone willing to help, please email the PTFA.

Winter Closure

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, www.cage-green.kent.sch.uk 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

PE Kit

I am noticing an increasing amount of reminders in our weekly bulletins regarding bringing PE Kit into school **every day** - and a growing number of children in school without kit. We do have a very limited stock of spare kit but this cannot be relied upon and children are using a substantial amount of their PE lesson trying to find kit to wear. It is your responsibility to ensure your child has full and correct kit in school and it is important that your child fully takes part in PE lessons. Thank you for your understanding and support.

The next newsletter will be published on Friday 15 December 2017.

Kind regards, *G Garthwaite*, Headteacher



Dates for Your Diary

November

Tuesday 21st & Thursday 23rd

Parents Evening, Years R-6

Friday 24th

Second PTFA Christmas Fair Donation Day (crazy hair with uniform)

December

Friday 1st

6R Class Assembly, 9.30 a.m.

Final PTFA Christmas Fair Donation Day (non-uniform)

Saturday 2nd

PTFA Christmas Fair

Friday 8th

3N Class Assembly, 9.30 a.m.

Wednesday 13th

Christmas Dinner Day

Friday 15th

Year R Christmas Nativity Play

Christmas Jumper Day

Monday 18th

Christmas Parties

Wednesday 20th

Carol Services at Tonbridge Baptist Church

Years 1 & 2, a.m.

Years 3-6, p.m.

Last Day of Term

January 2018

Thursday 4th

Children Return to School

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