

# CAGE GREEN NEWSLETTER

**"FOR EVERY CHILD TO REACH THEIR POTENTIAL"**

October 2015



Dear Parents/Carers and Children,

I would like to begin this month's newsletter by thanking all the parents/carers who attended the PTA coffee morning/afternoon or registered their interest in taking an active part. As I explained in my previous letter the PTA is at a point in time where we need to elect a Chair, Treasurer and Secretary to allow it to continue. We may have parents/carers who wish to take on one of these roles but we also need people who can spare an hour or two to help prepare for events as well as coming up with new ideas and initiatives.

With this in mind could I please encourage as many parents/carers as possible to attend the PTA AGM on **Wednesday 7 October at 7.30 pm** in the school hall. The first part of the evening is the 'official part' where we will be voting in the candidates who have expressed an interest in the roles detailed above. The second and most important part of the evening will look at devising a plan for events/meetings/committees etc. for the year ahead. This will be a great opportunity to ensure the PTA continues to make a difference to the experiences our children get here at Cage Green. I hope to see lots of you there next week.

As mentioned in previous letters our Key Stage 2 Harvest Festival takes place on Monday 5 October at 10.30 am at St Peter and St Paul's Church (also known as The Parish Church) just off Tonbridge High Street. The children have been rehearsing all week and their singing has sounded wonderful. The children will be rehearsing from 9.15 am in the church so can I please ask parents/carers not to enter the church until 10.15 am. Thank you. The Key Stage 1 Harvest Festival will take place on Tuesday 6 October at 9.30 am in the school hall. Again the children have worked really hard in learning the words of the songs and using their 'big' voices when singing.

**For both festivals we are asking for a food donation** which will be given to Fegans which amongst many things they do, support schools in meeting the emotional and social needs of children. More information can be found at [www.fegans.org.uk](http://www.fegans.org.uk). With this in mind please ensure the children can carry the donation either to the church if they are Years 3-6 or the hall if they are Year 1 or 2. As in previous years our Reception children will be singing at Penruddock House and donating Harvest gifts to the elderly residents.

A reminder that our Parent Survey is currently live and will close on Monday 12 October 2015. Can I please encourage all parents/carers to complete the online survey—your responses are important and are used to help devise our School Improvement Plan. Currently we have only 17 responses which is less than 4% of parents/carers. The survey can be found at:

[www.surveymonkey.com/r/cagegreen2015](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/cagegreen2015)

Results of the 11+ PESE tests will be published on Wednesday 14 October (letters to arrive Thursday 15 October) and parents/carers then have up to 31 October 2015 to complete the Secondary Common Application Form (SCAF) naming up to four secondary schools in order of preference. The SCAF can be found online at [www.kent.gov.uk/ola](http://www.kent.gov.uk/ola). Can I please ask that all Year 6 parents/carers complete a SCAF otherwise your child will be left without a secondary school come national offer day. Tuesday 1 March 2016 is national offer day and online applicants will receive an email stating the school your child has a place at—paper applicants will receive a letter the following day. I will be available if parents/carers would like to discuss any issue they have with the process.

### Space Day



Years 1 and 2 took part in Space Day on Wednesday this week as part of their topic learning. I don't think I've seen so much tin foil in one place but I must say, the quality of some of the costumes the children wore was fantastic. The teachers had planned lots of activities throughout the day including rocket launching using a soft drinks bottle and building a robot. I've included a selection of the photos on the left hand side taken throughout the day.

### Bikeability



Starting on Tuesday next week many of our Year 6 children will be taking part in Bikeability training which will help prepare children for cycling safely around the local community. It is an 8 hour course broken down into four, two-hour sessions with a maximum of 6 children in each group. Every child who takes part must provide their own working bicycle and helmet and must be able to ride a bike confidently. There are two levels of qualification split as follows:

#### Level 1 Bikeability

- 2 hours long (1st session)
- Training will take place on the playground.
- Pupils will be demonstrating that they can ride proficiently and are aware of their surroundings.



#### Level 2 Bikeability

- Only those that pass Level 1 will move on to level 2 (most children pass as long as they can safely control a bike)
- 3 x 2-hour sessions (the remaining 6 hours of training)
- These sessions take place on the roads surrounding the school
- Children will learn how to ride safely on the road



We've managed to secure funding this year and are able to offer the training for £5 per child. If you have a child in Year 6 and are interested in taking part please complete the paperwork sent home today and return on Monday 5th October since the places will go fast.

### Book Fair



We will be holding a book fair after school from next Monday 5th to Thursday 8th October. Thank you for the help offered so far. We are still in need of volunteers for Monday and Wednesday and from 3.00 pm until 3.45 pm. Any time you can spare would be greatly appreciated.

The next newsletter will be published on Friday 6 November 2015.

Yours sincerely

*G Garthwaite*

Headteacher

**Academic Year 2015-16**

**Term 1** Thursday 4 September—Staff Development Day

Friday 5 September—Staff Development Day

**Monday 7 September—Friday 23 October**

**Autumn Break** Monday 26 October—Friday 30 October

**Term 2** Monday 2 November—Staff Development Day

Tuesday 3 November—Staff Development Day

Wednesday 4 November—Staff Development Day

**Thursday 5 November — Friday 18 December**

**Christmas Break** Monday 21 December—Friday 1 January

**Term 3** **Monday 4 January—Friday 12 February**

**February Break** Monday 15 February—Friday 19 February

**Term 4** **Monday 22 February — Thursday 24 March**

**Spring Break** Friday 25 March — Friday 8 April

**Term 5** **Monday 11 April—Friday 27 May**

Monday 2 May—Bank Holiday

**May Break** Monday 30 May—Friday 3 June

**Term 6** **Monday 6 June—Friday 22 July**

**Academic Year 2016/17**

**Monday 31 October 2016 to Friday 4 November 2016—Staff Development Days**