

CAGE GREEN NEWSLETTER

"FOR EVERY CHILD TO REACH THEIR POTENTIAL"

October 2016



Dear Parents/Carers and Children,

I would like to begin this month's newsletter by thanking all the parents/carers who took the time to complete the Ofsted questionnaire on Parent View. A big thanks also to the children who completed their part—I understand approximately 115 children completed the survey as well as approximately 55 parents/carers. The report will be out in due course and once it is published I will provide a link to it on our website.

As you may have seen either through email/text/facebook or flyer we have our PTFA AGM this evening (**Monday 10 October 2016**) at **7.30pm** 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 specific roles of the PTA. 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 PTFA continues to make a difference to the experiences our children get here at Cage Green. I hope to see lots of you there this evening.

On Friday 7 October at 10.30 a.m. our Key Stage 2 children performed our Harvest Festival in front of a very large audience. It took place at St Peter and St Paul Parish Church and was led extremely well by our Head Boy, Rory K and Head Girl, Sophie F, accompanied by our Deputy Head Boy Jack D and Deputy Head Girl Martha E. Each year group performed either a song or read through a piece of poetry accompanied by a number of songs. It was a wonderful occasion.

On Wednesday 5 October at 9.30 a.m. our Key Stage 1 Harvest Festival took place in the school hall in front of a large number of parents/carers. The children worked really hard in learning the words of the songs and used their 'big' voices when singing. Well done to all the children involved.

For both festivals we asked for food donations which have already been taken down 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 <http://www.fegans.org.uk>. As in previous years our Reception children will be singing at Penruddock House and donating Harvest gifts to the elderly residents.

Results of the 11+ PESE tests will be published on Thursday 13 October (letters to arrive Friday 14 October) and parents/carers then have up to 31 October 2016 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. 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. Wednesday 1 March 2017 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.

As our parents/carers of Year 6 already know, due to the change of date for Secondary Transition Day, we have had to find an alternative date for our Year 6 Residential Visit. The school has managed to secure the week of 10—14 July 2017 but at Osmington Bay in Dorset— I believe in the past the school has been to Osmington Bay and I've heard staff speak very highly of the centre. There will be no additional cost and the Year 6 Information Evening regarding the visit is on the 14 June 2017 at 7.00 p.m.

With residential visits in mind, Mrs Bert and her team are currently researching venues for the Year 4 Residential. The dates will be 26—28 May 2017 and the school has a payment system in place for those who would like to pay amounts each week/ month.

Parental Questionnaire



Before Ofsted announced their visit to the school, we had already asked parents/ carers to share their views on the performance of the school through a set of 38 questions. There were 156 responses from a mixture of year groups.

A few highlights from the questionnaire include:

- 93% of parents/ carers believe their child is happy at school
- Not one parent/carer believe school trips are **not** worthwhile experiences
- Not one parent/carer disagrees that Cage Green provides a range of enrichment weeks and activities



Areas we need to work on include:

- Informing parents on how they can support their child at home

With this in mind we have a Parents Information Session for **Year R and Year 1** parents on **Thursday 10 November at 7.00 p.m.** The session will be an opportunity to see how we teach Phonics across Key Stage 1 (one of the strategies to teach reading) as well as how we use the Numicon resources to support learning in mathematics. Can I please encourage all parents from Year R and Year 1 to attend. Other parents are more than welcome to attend.

The full report from the Parental Questionnaire can be accessed using the link below:

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/cagegreen

Just a reminder that Class Assemblies are about to commence again for this academic year but they will be held between 2.30 p.m. and 3.15 p.m. Mrs Bert's class will be the first assembly on the 21 October 2016. As normal if parents/carers queue outside in the Courtyard I will invite you in once the children are ready. I hope to see many of you there.



The next newsletter will be published on Friday 11 November 2016.

Yours sincerely

G Garthwaite

Headteacher



Academic Year 2016/17

Teacher Training Days

Monday 1 November 2016 to Friday 5 November 2016

Last day of term:
Friday 21st October

Term 2

5 teacher training days:
Monday 31st October to Friday 4th November

Children return to school:
Monday 7th November

Last day of term:
Wednesday 21st December

Term 3

Children return to school:
Tuesday 3rd January 2017

Last day of term:
Friday 10th February

Term 4

Children return to school:
Monday 20th February

Last day of term:
Friday 31st March

Term 5

Children return to school:
Tuesday 18th April

Last day of term:
Friday 26th May

Term 6

Children return to school:
Monday 5th June

Last day of term:
Friday 21st July