

CAGE GREEN NEWSLETTER

"FOR EVERY CHILD TO REACH THEIR POTENTIAL"

September 2015



Dear Parents/Carers and Children,

Welcome back to a new school year - I hope you all had a wonderful summer break. The children have returned keen and enthused about school with many parents leaving the playground on Monday morning with smiles on their faces!! I would like to offer a warm welcome to all our new families who are now starting what I trust, will be a rewarding association with the school.

The school year started in earnest for a selection of our Year 6 children who sat the Grammar school selection test on Thursday - it was a very intense day and I wish all the children the best of luck come results day. Once the results have been published on Wednesday 14 October (letters to arrive Thursday 15 October) 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. 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.

Free School Meals

As you may or may not know all children in Years R, 1 and 2 are entitled to a free school meal regardless of income or eligibility for benefits. By receiving free school meals you can save over £400 a year as well as knowing your child is eating a healthy, balanced meal every day. With this in mind could I please encourage parents/carers in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to sign up for a school meal even if after a week you and your child decide to revert back to packed lunches.

Pupil Premium

In this financial year, schools will receive £1300 extra for every primary-aged pupil registered as eligible for free school meals at any point in the last six years. Even though all infants receive a free school meal as detailed above, parents/carers still need to make an application for Free School Meals. Children don't have to take our meals if they don't want to but, if they are on our Free School Meals register, then they qualify for all sorts of other financial benefits throughout the year.

When a child is on our Free School Meals register, the school receives extra money for that child which has to be spent on raising achievement of free school meals children. This extra money is called the 'Pupil Premium' and its purpose is to ensure that children from low income families, service children and adopted children are not at a financial disadvantage during their education as a result of home circumstances.

Is my child eligible for Pupil Premium?

In order for the school to receive the Pupil Premium funding a parent/carer must be claiming one of the following benefits:

- Income support
- Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income-Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (without Working Tax Credit) and an annual income below £16 190
- The Guaranteed Element of Pension Tax Credit
- Asylum Seeker under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999



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How to register for Free School Meals

In order to register your child to receive Pupil Premium you will need to go to the following website and follow the instructions:

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals>

Alternatively, you can print a paper registration form from the website or collect one from the School Office.

'Meet the Teacher'

The first opportunity to meet your child's class teacher will be Tuesday 15 September for Years 4, 5 and 6 and Thursday 17 September for Years 1 and 2. This is an informal meeting to give parents/carers the opportunity to see their child's classroom and discuss any issues. The class teacher will also be explaining the curriculum and timetables for the forthcoming year.

Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival will be held in early October. **Years 3, 4, 5 and 6** performance will take place on **Monday 5 October** at **St Peter and St Paul's Church** in Tonbridge. The performance will begin at 10.30 am and can I please ask parents/carers not to enter the church until 10.15 am to allow the children to rehearse. **Years 1 and 2** performance will take place on **Tuesday 6 October** in the school hall and begin at 9.30 am. Parents/carers are more than welcome to attend both performances. Our Reception children will be singing at Penruddock House and donating Harvest gifts to the elderly residents.

(Christmas Concerts will take place on Friday 18 December at the Tonbridge Baptist Church - Year 1 and 2 at 10 am and Years 3-6 at 2 pm)

Clubs

A club fair will be held early next week where the children will be asked to enrol in a maximum of two clubs. Mr Hall and the School Office will then have the unenviable task of organising which children attend which club(s). Letters will be sent out detailing the before or after school club(s) your child has been allocated. Clubs will begin week commencing 21 September. We have a varied range of clubs available this term and if last term is any indication, they will be very popular so apologies in advance if we can't accommodate every child. This term we have been able to secure a number of specialist coaches who are willing to run a club - due to the expertise they offer, there may be a small charge for these clubs. Please see page 4 for further information.

Next newsletter will be published on Friday 2 October 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 31st October 2016 to Friday 4 November 2016 - Staff Development Days

Clubs

Please find below a list of clubs we will be running this term. This is not a definitive list and we will make more information available about other clubs as soon as we can.

There will be a club fair in the school hall early next week. Please could you take a look at the list below and discuss with your child(ren) which clubs they may like to sign up for, taking into account the days and timings of each one.

Lunchtime Clubs

Monday

German (KS2)
Netball (Years 4, 5 & 6)
Badminton

Tuesday

Comic Club (KS2)
Sketching Club (KS2)
Running Club (KS2)
Sewing Club (Year 2)

Wednesday

Science Club (KS1 & 2)
Choir (KS 1 & 2) There is a cost attached to this as it is run by Music Station.

Thursday

Colouring Club (KS1)
Watercolour Club (KS2)

Friday

Construction Club (Years 3 & 4)
Education City (KS1)

After School Clubs

Monday

Scrabble Club (Years 5 & 6)
Just Dance (KS2)

Tuesday

Crochet (Years 5 & 6)

Wednesday

Netball (Years 4, 5 & 6)
Football (Years 4, 5 & 6)

Thursday

Decoupage Club (Years 5 & 6) Decoupage is the art of decorating objects by covering them in coloured paper cutouts in combination with special paint effects, gold leaf and so on.

Eco-Warriors

Basketball (Years 4, 5 & 6)

First Class Football (Years 1 to 4) There is a cost attached to this.

Friday

Book Club (Years 2 & 3)