

CAGE GREEN NEWSLETTER



September 2017

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 parents who are now starting what I trust, will be a rewarding association with the school.

The school year started in earnest for a group 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 Thursday 12 October (letters to arrive Friday 13 October) parents/carers then have up to 31 October 2017 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 on Thursday 1 March 2018, national offer day. 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 a reminder here are the teachers and classes for September 2017 as detailed below:

Current Class	September 2017	Current Class	September 2017
Chimpanzees	Miss Wickham (1W)	Miss Wellington	Mr Salter (4S)
Penguins	Miss Amy Pulham (1P)	Miss Newman	Mrs Hamilton (4H)
Miss Wilson	Miss Aldred (2A)	Mrs Bert	Mr Friend (5F)
Miss Wickham	Miss Sarah Scott (2S)	Mr Salter	Mrs Ewins (5E)
Miss Leppard	Classes re-organised . Miss Wilson or Miss Newman	Mrs Creed/ Mrs Hunt	Miss Russell (6R)
Miss Aldred		Mr Gurr	Mr Gurr (6G)

At the end of last term Mr Neal made the decision to resign from his post in order to support his daughter in the care of his grandchild and to explore new career opportunities after a long teaching career. We wish him all the best in the future.

Another staff change is Mrs Eaton: she has decided to move to a new school working with a different key stage. I also wish Mrs Eaton the best of luck in her new role.

As many of you know our vision for Cage Green Primary School is that all children become independent thinkers, collaborative sharers and creative learners: one of things we have introduced this year is that all Key Stage Two children have been issued with a pencil case, pencil, pen and rubber. This will hopefully increase independence and encourage the children to become responsible for their equipment. Therefore if they misplace/lose any of this equipment the school will replace it the first time but following that the children will have to purchase the missing equipment themselves. Obviously if a pen runs out of ink or the pencil becomes too small, the school will replace these. Any missing pieces of equipment can be purchased from the School Office at a charge of 10p per item. I hope parents/carers will support this initiative but any questions you may have on this matter, please feel free to discuss these with me.

'Meet the Teacher'

The first opportunity to meet your child's class teacher will be today, Monday 11 September for Years 4, 5 and 6 and Wednesday 13 September for Years 1, 2 and Phoenix Centre. (Phoenix Centre pupils who also integrate can link in with main school class teachers) 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. Any parent/carer who can't make the meetings will be able to view the presentation via the school's website.

Harvest Festival**Houses of Parliament Visit**

Our Harvest Festival will be held in early October. **Years 3, 4, 5 and 6's** performance will take place on **Wednesday 4 October** at **St Peter and St Paul's Church** in Tonbridge. The performance will begin at 1.45 pm and can I please ask parents/carers not to enter the church until 1.30 pm to allow the children to prepare. **Years 1 and 2's** performance will take place on **Thursday 5 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 later in the term.

**Homework Club**

To assist parents of children in Years 3 to 6 in completing their homework, the school is providing opportunities for the children to attend Homework Club. Anybody is welcome so the children can drop in when necessary. The times are as follows:

Year 5 working hard!

Thursday 12.30 pm to 1.00 pm in 3W

Thursday 3.30 pm to 4.15 pm in 3W hosted by a member of the Senior Leadership Team

Friday 8.00 am to 8.45 am in 6R hosted by Mr Garthwaite

If a child fails to complete their homework they will be asked to complete it during their break or lunchtimes. Also if a child hands in homework late it may not be marked until the following week.

Homework allows parents/carers to be involved in their child's learning and is an opportunity to understand what they have been learning about in school. Any queries with the methods we use at school please feel free to speak to your child's Class teacher.

**Circus**

Just a reminder that the PTFA have organised two Circus Performances on Saturday 16 September—one at 1.00 pm and the other at 2.30 pm. Tickets are priced at £4.50 per seat or £3.50 if sitting on the floor. This is a community event so anybody is welcome and tickets are still available. The PTFA will be in the playground on Monday 11 September to distribute tickets already purchased.

Year 4 Residential Visit

The October newsletter will be published on Friday 6 October 2017.

Yours sincerely

Mr G Garthwaite

School Term Dates—2017/18

Term 1

Monday 4 September - Friday 20 October 2017

Autumn Half Term Break - Monday 23 to Friday 27 October 2017

Term 2

Monday 30 October - Friday 3 November 2017 - Teacher Training Days

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 - Friday 24 July 2018