



Friday 23rd September **NEWSLETTER**

From the Headteacher...

Dear Parents,

We are delighted that the weather has not been quite as hot as it was last week! The children have been enjoying the trim trail and playground games.

Parents' Forum

Thank you to all the parents who joined us for the Parents' Forum on Wednesday morning; there was a great turnout and we were able to address lots of questions. The notes from this meeting are available on the school website. Future meetings have already been planned (see the calendar at the end of the newsletter). To help enable parents to take part, we are varying the time we meet. The next meeting, on the 9th November, will be held at 2.00pm; the following meeting will be held at 6.00pm. If you have questions or aspects you would like us to cover, please let us know in advance and we will ensure these are included. We also hope to be able to provide tea/coffee and biscuits!

Celebration Assembly

We were very pleased to have the children in Reception join us today for their first time at collective worship, for Celebration assembly. This was particularly good timing, because one of the classes managed to get 100% attendance this week. What a great way to start school!

Safety Outside School

As you may have noticed, we are having a look at the process for arriving at school in the mornings, as well as leaving in the afternoons. I am grateful to all those parents who help to make sure children are safe as they walk into school. I would like to remind all parents to drive slowly and safely where children and families are walking. It is too easy for a small child to step out into the road with disastrous consequences. We are in discussion with the Highways Agency to consider further measures to keep our children safe. It is also important to ensure that cars are parked legally; we have had some complaints from residents, who would be within their rights to raise any concerns with the police if parents park illegally or inconsiderately. We ALL share responsibility for making this a pleasant, safe place for our children.

Regards

Andrew Saunders
Headteacher

Hebrews 12v1

"Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us."

In this issue:

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Great Question!

- Whether you think you can, or think you can't, you are probably right!
- What do the boxes at the bottom of this page mean?

The Importance of Words



Words have an immense impact on those around us, but not everyone is aware of the impact they have on the one who says them. Plenty of research shows that using negative phrases weakens your body physically. Further, anger and bitterness are often connected to illness and depression. We can choose what we say. What can you say to play a positive role for those around you and yourself? It's your choice.



For Information ...

Friday Celebration:

ALL parents are welcome to join us at 09.05am every Friday to celebrate the learning that has been happening and to hear about our 'attitude of gratitude'. The parents of children who have won 'Star of the Week' (for the most DoJo points in each class) and the 'Brick of the Week' (for the best piece of work done) will be invited to join us. A member of staff will alert parents about this on Thursday afternoons and a 'DoJo' message will also be sent.



Class DoJo:

We have been checking that parents are receiving messages on Class DoJo, and can see the DoJos and merits which children have been awarded. If you have any concerns, please do let us know where there may be problems.



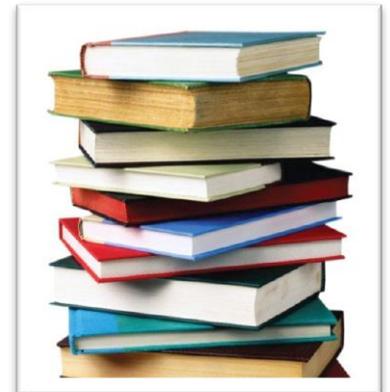
The Library & Reading

Library Helpers

We are immensely grateful to the parents who have been helping sort out the library. It is going to take some time and considerable effort to get the system fully up to date.

- Are you passionate about books?
- Do you love reading?
- Do you like having everything in its place?

If you can help us, please let the office know when you would be available and your contact details.



Oxford Reading Scheme



We are reviewing the way we use the Oxford reading scheme in school and are introducing some other opportunities to encourage children's reading. The new National Curriculum puts a great deal of emphasis on reading for understanding. We have found that many of our children are eager to get onto the next 'level' or colour band on the scheme and consequently are rushing through books without a deeper understanding of what they are reading and what it means. While they may become good at 'decoding', their inference and understanding is not as well developed. We will be holding parent seminars to help understand in more detail how to develop your child's understanding.

School lunches



We have continued to review the situation with the cold dinners and had further discussion with the staff in the kitchen. Consequently, we are going to revert to a 'Pick & Mix' menu, where children can opt for their choice of sandwich in the morning, but can make the rest of their choice from a selection as they used to do.

All children who have any kind of school dinner are also welcome to add salad to their lunch, from the salad bar. This will include a 'Taste Challenge' each week, introducing children to some new taste sensations they can try.

Parents' Forum – Summary (held on Wednesday 21st September)

Topics covered:

- Breakfast club
- Planned new school in Red Lodge
- Homework and spellings
- School lunches
- Heat in the classrooms
- Long-term leadership
- Communication & school website
- Library
- Trim Trail
- Smoking on/near school property
- Vision and continuity
- Future Parents' Forums
- Lost Child procedures
- Shade on playground and field
- Walking through the car park

For more detail, please view the minutes on the school website.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club:

The breakfast club is already proving very popular. Children who come along love the games which are available and this week we have started doing some 'Wake and Shake', a movement routine to music. Children can also draw or do puzzles. On the menu, they can have toast, scrambled egg, beans, and hot chocolate.

Remember, it is cheaper to book ahead for the whole week. Whether your child attends every day or only occasionally, it is fantastic value-for-money and gives children an excellent start to the day.

Messy Church!



Messy Church



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Saturday 24th September
9.45am registration for 10am start
For all children aged 3-12

St Christopher's Church
Boundary Road
Red Lodge



Shared lunch at 12 noon

Come and join us for a morning of fun, food and friends
Call Kimberley on 01638 555138 for more info and to book



WANT TO SEE A REAL TRACTOR UP
CLOSE?!?

To support our harvest theme a
local farmer will be bringing his
tractor

Attendance!

The government have set the
target for attendance at...

96%

Two classes excelled themselves,
getting 100% attendance. This
included Eeyore class, in only
their third week at school – what
an amazing achievement! Oak
class also achieved 100%; all
these pupils get an extra 20
minutes of play time.

Kanga	89.2%
Eeyore	100%
Oak	100%
Elm	95.5%
Beech	98.6%
Rowan	97.6%
Larch	96.3%
Willow	99.5%
Maple	97.7%
Scots Pine	94.8%
Juniper	100%
Sycamore	90.7%
Horse Chestnut	89%

Dates for your diary

Autumn Term 2016:

5 October, Wednesday	16.30: Parents' information evening; chance to speak to staff informally
21 October, Friday	09.15: Harvest festival service at school Last day of half term
24-28 October	Half Term holiday
31 October, Monday	Pupils return
9 November, Wednesday	14.00: Parents' Forum
Friday 11 November	10.30-11.10: Remembrance Service at school (Parents welcome)
Wednesday 22 November	09.00-10.15: Open morning for prospective pupils and parents
Tuesday 29 November	15.30-17.30: Parent-Teacher consultations (booking required)
Wednesday 30 November	16.30-18.30: Parent-Teacher consultations (booking required)
Thursday 1 December	09.15: Christingle service (Parents welcome)
Tuesday 6 December	Over-65's lunch
Wednesday 14 December	09.30: Key Stage 1 Nativity Play (booking required)
Thursday 15 December	14.00: Key Stage 1 Nativity Play (booking required)
Monday 19 December	10.00: Carol-singing around the village School Christmas lunch
Tuesday 20 December	14.00: Carol service for parents 15.15: End of term
21 December – 3 January	Christmas Holidays

Spring Term 2017

Wednesday 4 January	Staff professional development Day; no children in school
Thursday 5 January	Pupils return
Wednesday 11 January	6.00pm: Parents' Forum
27 February – 3 March	Book Week
Wednesday 1 March	9.00am: Parents' Forum
2 March, Thursday	World Book Day (play-clothes/costume day)
13-17 March	Science week
Tuesday 21 March	3.30-5.30pm: Optional Parent-Teacher consultations (booking required)
Wednesday 22 March	4.30-6.30pm: Optional Parent-Teacher consultations (booking required)
Friday 24 March	Red Nose Day for Comic Relief
Friday 31 March	2.30pm: Easter service at school (parents welcome) 3.15pm: End of term

Summer Term 2017

26 April, Wed	Parents' Forum (2.00pm)
8-11 May	Year 6 SATs week
5-9 June	Enterprise Week
14 June, Wed	Parents' Forum (6.00pm)
3-7 July	Year 5 and 6 Production
17-21 July	Leavers' Assembly (Year 6 parents welcome) End-of-term Assembly (all parents welcome)

Please note: dates are advisory and MAY be subject to change. We will inform parents of any changes as early as possible.