



Friday 3rd February 2017

NEWSLETTER

From the headteacher...

Dear parents,

I know it is unusual to have another newsletter so quickly, but there are several important updates for parents. In particular, there is information about the upcoming Pizza and Bingo evening being run by the PTA, an update about the behaviour strategies, and

I would whole-heartedly encourage parents to join us for the Pizza and Bingo evening. The PTA do a fantastic job of organising events which are great fun and also raise very helpful funds for the school. As budgets become ever tighter, it is often only through the generosity and hard work of groups like the PTA that we can afford some of the 'extras' which enrich our children's learning and experiences.

Next week governors will be meeting to consider the core purpose of the school and to review the values we would like to focus on as a school with a Christian foundation. We will also be doing a survey and discussion with parents about your views of what the key values should be.

Interested in being a Parent Governor? Please check that you have received notification of elections for parent governors. We have a vacancy at the moment and would be delighted to explain more about what is involved. This is a crucial role to support the school and help keep a check that improvements are happening. It is also very helpful to the school where parents bring skills and ideas about how to make a difference. If you are interested, please do talk to myself, or contact the chair of governors, Tim Huggan, through the school office.

Please do read the letter about parent volunteers to listen to children read. Those who already do this wonderful service for us say that it is very rewarding, and we know that it makes a real impact to improve children's reading.

Regards

Andrew Saunders

In this issue:

- From the Head
- New behaviour strategy
- PTA
- Nurture classroom
- Dates for your diary

Coming up soon:

- Travelling Book Fair, 7-9 Feb – AND photo display (available for purchase)
- PTA Meeting, 9th Feb.
- PTA Pizza and Bingo night, 24th Feb, 6-8pm.

Great Question!

- Who is watching what you do?
- What kind of example will you be?
- Can you chose whether you are an example to others or not?



Look out for pupils' drafts of the wonderful stories they have been writing! We are excited about all the different stories we are hearing about.

John 10:10

Jesus said: "I have come that they may have life in all its fullness."

New Behaviour Strategy

Behaviour Strategies

Following discussion with staff and pupils, we are adapting the proposed new strategy to make it simpler to manage. For example, we are aligning it with the Dojo rewards system so there is only way of recording pupils 'points'.



- All pupils will start the morning and afternoon sessions on Green.
- Pupils will be awarded a Dojo point for great learning, exceptional effort, etc. Any positive Dojo given for learning will mean the pupil can move their name up to silver, then to gold if they get a further Dojo for their learning. Pupils can continue to earn Dojos once they are on Gold.
- 'Need to..' Dojos (and -1 Dojo point) will be given for any behaviour which is not acceptable, shows poor learning, or distracts other pupils. This will also mean the pupil has to move their name down, first to Amber, then to Red. Pupils can continue to lose Dojo points once they are on Red.
- Pupils who are on Red at the end of the morning or afternoon session will have to attend the Red Room sessions at either lunch time or break time the following day.
- All pupils will start the week with 20 minutes of Golden Time. Any pupil who has been on Red will lose a minute of this fun session for each time they have been on Red during the week.

Poor behaviour during break time will always be challenged by the adults on duty.

- Any incidents will mean that pupils whose behaviour has been unacceptable will spend five minutes sitting on a bench. During this time they will have to fill out a form thinking about what they have done, why it is not acceptable and how they could have made a different choice.
- Any pupil who has spent time on the benches twice in a week and then misbehaves again will miss some of their lunch time the following day and will also have to explain to the senior leaders how they are going to improve their behaviour.

Anti-Bullying

We are also having a crack-down on any bullying behaviour. As a school, our definition is that bullying is happening if:

- It happens regularly, not just as a one-off
- There is an imbalance of power, either in size, numbers or even in confidence
- Someone is hurt or upset, either physically or emotionally.

We have also made it utterly clear to all the pupils that it is EVERYONE's responsibility to challenge any behaviour which might be bullying. Standing by and watching it happen is just as unacceptable as actually doing the bullying.

We will take strong, decisive action to tackle any bullying. If you feel your child is being bullied, please let us know – we can only deal with situations we know about. It is also important to give the school time to find out all the background information we can, because sometimes there is more to the situation than might be obvious at first. We follow an approach called 'restorative justice'. It does take a considerable amount of time, but it is demonstrably successful. It may be that the cycle has to be carried out more than once; we will do so if necessary.

We are very proud of the excellent behaviour of so many of our pupils, and look forward to being able to celebrate being a school where there is NO bullying, because all pupils and staff respect one another and are part of the fantastic community that is St Christopher's Primary School.



Red Lodge Feast

If you are interested in helping to organise and run the fantastic event we are planning in the summer, please do give your name and contact details to the school office.

THE RED LODGE FEAST

We hope that this will be an event the whole of the community will get involved in. It has amazing potential and is an exciting opportunity. A proportion of the money raised will benefit the school; the rest will be available for groups from our community to apply for in small grants. However, the principle will be that groups must contribute to the Feast event in some way, in order to benefit from the fund.

Dates for your diary

Spring Term 2017

Friday 3 February	Year 1 Trip to Norwich Castle
7-9 February	Book Fair, available for viewing before and after school
Thursday 9 February	7.00pm: PTA meeting, in the staff room
27 February – 3 March	Book Week
Wednesday 1 March	9.00am: Parents' Forum
Thursday 2 March	World Book Day (play-clothes/costume day)
13-17 March	Science week
Tuesday 21 March	3.30-6.00pm: Book-Look – opportunity for parents to see the work children are doing
Wednesday 22 March	3.30-5.30pm: Optional Parent-Teacher consultations (booking required)
Friday 24 March	Red Nose Day for Comic Relief
Tuesday 28 March	09.30am: Year 3 & 4 Easter musical (booking required)
Wednesday 29 March	2.30pm: Year 3 & 4 Easter musical (booking required)
Thursday 30 March	2.30pm: Easter service at school (parents welcome) 3.15pm: End of term

PTA

A few words from the PTA..

Thank you to everyone who supported us last term by either helping at or attending the various Christmas events. There will be another chance to view and order photos taken at the discos as well as a selection of photos taken at the EY and KS1 concerts. This will be alongside the Book Fair next week.

This term we are holding a "Bingo & Pizza" evening at the school on Friday 24th February, from 6-8pm, so please put this date in your diaries. Parents and children welcome.

