



Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have settled very well into their new school term and this term will see the start of two new projects.

The first is the 'Safe at school anti bullying award'. This nationwide award is recognised as a mark of high quality and once awarded, the accreditation last for three years. The programme is aligned with Department for Education guidance, equality legislation and Ofsted requirements. Schools and other settings that register, work towards and gain accredited status are publicly demonstrating their commitment to creating a safe, inclusive and accepting school environment where pupil and staff well-being is paramount and unacceptable behaviours are not tolerated. We believe that behaviour has greatly improved at the school, however by embedding a whole school approach and the ethos that is needed to achieve the award we also hope to demonstrate a positive impact in attendance, attainment and well-being, along with a strong partnership with parents.

The second project to start this term will be the whole school review of homework, looking at how we can make home learning both effective and engaging. Homework in the primary years continues to be a high profile issue and I hope to be able to work with all stakeholders on this important aspect of school life. If you would like to join me in reviewing this aspect of pupil learning, then please contact me to take part.

In recent weeks the school has been fortunate to build on its number of volunteers to assist with listening to pupils read regularly. If you, or anyone you know, are able to make a regular commitment to the school for this very important task, then please do get in touch with the school office and they will provide you with further details on what is required.

Wishing you all a very good week

Yours sincerely

Christopher Dale
Headteacher

Life without Levels workshop for parents

As highlighted in last week's newsletter, to help parents get to grips with understanding the changes in assessment and the removal of levels, we have set up a workshop tomorrow, **TUESDAY 12th January 2016 at 2.15pm** for parents to attend and understand more about the changes that have taken place in the new national curriculum, which is organised around clearly described expectations for every year group in every subject.

Parents will be able to take information away with them on the Age Related Expectations (ARE) children are expected to be working on. We do hope you are able to attend this important meeting.

Dates for your diary

Tues 12th Jan
Life without levels workshop for parents
2.15pm

Thurs 14th Jan
Rugby Tots for Year 2 for 5 weeks, please remember PE kit

Tues 19th Jan
Year 6 Open classes for parents 3.00pm to 3.45pm

Tues 26th Jan
Year 6 Parent Teacher Consultation 4.30pm to 7.30pm

Wed 27th Jan
Year 6 Parent Teacher Consultation 3.20pm to 6.00pm

Tues 2nd Feb
Year R & 2 Open classes for parents 3.00pm to 3.45pm

Tues 9th Feb
Year R (1:30pm – 7:30pm) & Year 2 (4.30pm to 7.30pm)
Parent Teacher Consultation

Wed 10th Feb
Year R & 2 Parent Teacher Consultation 3.20pm to 6.00pm

TERM DATES

Fri 12th Feb

Term ends

Mon 22nd Feb

Children return to school

Easter Holiday

Fri 25th March to Fri 8th April

Uniform

Please ensure your child wears the correct school uniform. No trainers, hoodies or other substitute items. The majority of children are usually in correct uniform and look very smart.

Recently, more children seem to be missing PE because they do not have their PE/games kit in school. PE and games are statutory parts of the National Curriculum and therefore it is essential that all children have their kit in school in order to participate.

PE/games kits can be kept in school on your child's peg and then taken home at the end of the term, or when necessary, to be washed and then returned to school. We will be sending a letter home if your child does not have their kit in school as required. If your child is unable to take part in PE/games then you must inform your child's class teacher in writing as to the reason why.

Thank you for supporting the school in this matter.



This weeks collective worship focus is:

REFLECTING ON LIGHT

And Jesus said "I am the light of the world"
John 8: 12

Messy Church

The next Messy Church at St Nicholas Church is on **Friday 29th January at 3.15pm**. Please join in. All ages are welcome!

Star Awards

Start of the week awards went to: Hedgehogs: Elise, **Badgers:** Jack A, **Kestrels:** Sophie B, **Willow:** Harry L, **Rowan:** Ethan G

Work to be proud of awards went to: Squirrels: Hollie D, **Otters:** Jordan L, **Kites:** Rebecca C, **Maple:** Logan S



Nicholas Bear went to: Maple Class



Best Attendance this week goes to – Classes Birch 98.2% & Owls 98.1% & Kestrels 98.1%

School closure plans in the event of bad weather

Whilst the school will do its best to remain open, in the event that it has to close due to bad weather or other reasons we will let you know by posting information on our website and making announcements on Local Radio stations (Heart, KMFM and Radio Kent). You can also register for alerts by joining the KCC site www.kentclosures.co.uk

Please make sure the office have your up to date contact details in case we need to call you.

Open Classes

These will be taking place this term for parents of children in year 6, 2 and R and we hope as many parents as possible will be able to attend to look at their child's work before attending parent consultation evenings. Please remember that the Teachers are always more than happy to discuss matters with you but longer and more detailed conversations are probably best left to the end of the school day.

Year 6 Open Classes – Tuesday 19th January 3.00pm

Year R & 2 Open Classes – Tuesday 2nd Feb 3.00pm

Learning Links – At New Romney Children's Centre. Starts 21st January, 9.30 – 11.30am

Would you like to understand more about how your child learns and what makes them tick?

Join us for this fun, exciting programme of workshops to explore children's play patterns and how you can tap into their world.

An exciting and fun 10 week programme looking at promoting your child's self-esteem and self-worth, understanding more about how your child learns through play and how you can support their play and learning at home.

Free crèche provided, please contact the centre on 03000 420000 to book your place!

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