

Newsletter 1 14.9.17



Welcome back!

It has been lovely to welcome both our new pupils and familiar faces back to school to begin another exciting year. The children (and staff) have returned from their holiday with enthusiasm and energy and everyone has embraced their new learning.

We have many new children joining us in Year 3 but also in all other year groups and we hope that they will all enjoy their time with us. We have also welcomed Mrs Addley who has joined us as a Year 6 teacher in Spitfire class and are pleased that Mr Gargan has returned.

Please do take advantage of our 'open door policy' to pop in and keep us informed about your children so that we can continue to work in partnership with you to ensure the best possible outcomes for all of our pupils.

Thank you to all of those parents who were able to attend the Curriculum Evenings over the last two weeks. For those of you who were unable to attend, the presentations will be available to view on our website soon.

After-school Club

Following many requests from parents, we are hoping to begin offering an After-school Club after the October half term holiday. We are currently advertising for staff to run this provision (please see the Hampshire website for details if you know of people who would be interested in applying!). Long-term we are planning on installing a separate building which will be a permanent base for our Breakfast and After-school Clubs. One possible design is shown below. Further details will be following shortly.



DIARY DATES

Fri 15 th Sept	Election Day
Fri 15 th Sept	Friday Workshops begin
Mon 18 th Sept	Applications for Year 7 (Sept 2018) places open through Hampshire Admissions
Wed 20 th Sept 7:00pm	PTA AGM
Mon 25 th Sept 10:00- 12:30pm	Year 6 'School Shakespeare Festival' cast attending workshop at Camberley Theatre
Tues 26 th Sept 5-6:00pm	Maths Family Learning Evening Details to follow
Tues 10 th Oct	Junior Road Safety Officer training day (selected pupils)
Wed 11 th Oct	Parents' Evening 3:45-5:30pm
Thur 12 th Oct	Parents' Evening 5:00-7:00pm
Mon 16 th Oct	Open Afternoon for Year 2 parents (admissions for Sept 2018)
Tues 17 th Oct	Parents' Evening 3:45-5:30pm
Thur 19 th Oct	"Your Time to Shine" Day - road safety non-uniform day
Thur 19 th Oct 3:25pm	Finish for half term holiday
Fri 20 th Oct	INSET day
Mon 30 th Oct	Autumn 2 half term starts
Tues 31 st Oct	Open Evening for Year 2 parents (admissions for Sept 2018)
Tues 31 st Oct	Closing date for Year 7 applications
Wed 1 st Nov	Applications for Year 3 (Sept 2018) places open through Hampshire Admissions
Week beginning Mon 13 th Nov	Anti-bullying Week National Parliament Week Book Fair
Mon 13 th Nov 7:00pm	School Shakespeare Festival Performance at Camberley Theatre

Road Safety

This term, there have already been two near-misses on Fernhill Road involving cars and our families. Please could I stress the importance of the following points to keep all of our children and their families safe.

~ Cars should not be stopping to drop off children on Fernhill Road outside the school.

~ Parking permits for Blunden Hall are available from the school office to enable safe parking.

~ The staff car park should not be used by parents to drop off and pick up unless by arrangement with Mrs Hickie.

SAFETY FIRST PLEASE

Parents' Evenings

Letters will be sent home soon with information about how to book an on-line appointment to attend one of our parents' evenings. These meetings will allow you to meet with your child's teacher.

PTA AGM

Please do come along to our Annual General meeting where we will be discussing possible events for next academic year. If you would be able to help out, even in a small way, please do come and let us know.

Meeting - 7pm Wednesday 20th September.



Playground Safety

A reminder that before and after school, we ask that children do not ride bikes and scooters through the playground to ensure everybody's safety.

The Timber Trail is also not to be used before or after school by any children as there is not a member of staff to supervise. This includes older or younger siblings.

We were very pleased that repair work on our Rose Garden was completed during the summer holiday. Please could you remind all children not to run along the top of the walls - again for safety reasons.



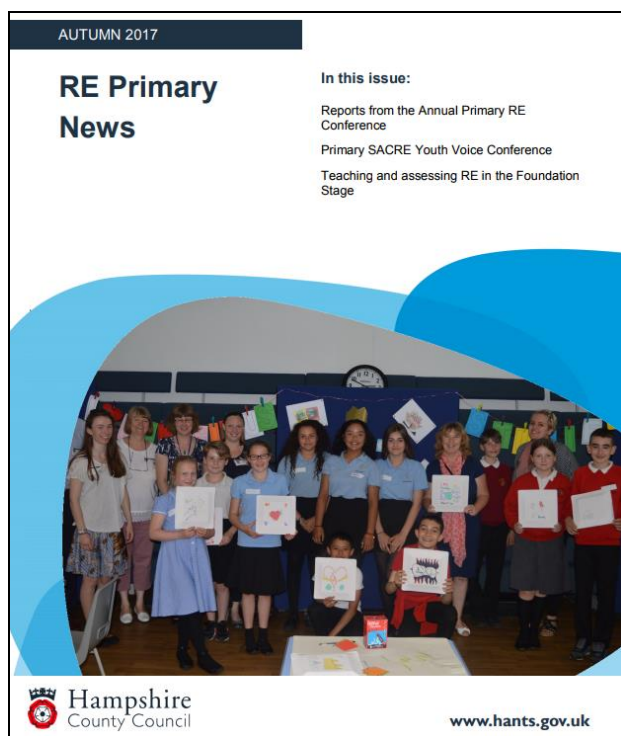
Office Refurbishment

Apologies for the recent disruption in the office whilst it was being refurbished. We are very pleased with the finished result!



RE News

We were very excited to find ourselves on the cover of the latest edition of the Hampshire RE Primary News magazine which is circulated to all of the schools in Hampshire. A group of our Year 6 children attended Hampshire's first ever Primary Youth Voice Conference. They represented the school brilliantly.



Residential Trips

We have now held meetings for parents in preparation for the residential trips which we will be running in years 4, 5 and 6 this year. All parents should also have received letters to secure places on these trips.

Our trips provide an amazing opportunity for the children to experience new activities and spend time away from school with their friends and teachers. These are the types of trip which create memories which really do last a lifetime.

Regarding payment, we are following County advice about how to share the costs with parents. This is different to how costs have been shared in the past so we would like to clarify this information:

~ As the trips take place during school hours, part of the cost has to be classed as a 'voluntary contribution'

~ School is not able to fund residential trips so if insufficient voluntary contributions are received, the trip will have to be cancelled.

~ Families in receipt of certain specified benefits are exempt from paying the board and lodgings element of the cost. Further details can be obtained from the school office.

If you require any additional information about the residential trips, please contact the school office or Mr Gargan (our Educational Visits Co-ordinator)

Words of the Fortnight!

To encourage our children to use a wider range of vocabulary, we set a challenge for the children which we hope you will join in with at home too. Every two weeks, a new word is introduced in each class and the children get rewards for using them in their writing or in conversation. Our new words are:

Lower School

'Marine'

Adjective - to do with the sea or things found in the sea

Year 5

'Perseverance'

Noun - a continued effort to do or achieve something despite difficulties, failure or opposition

Year 6

'Institution'

Noun - an organisation founded for a religious, educational, professional, or social purpose

How often can you use these words at home?

Election Day

The whole school had lots of fun today when we held our first 'General Election'. All children voted for their School Council Representatives and the House Captains. We were able to borrow official voting booths and ballot boxes from Hart Borough Council which made the voting process in our own Polling Station very official. The winners will be shared in the next newsletter.

