



Scantabout Primary School

Achieving our best together.

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ACADEMIC YEAR 2017/2018

NEWSLETTER NO: 2 w/e 13th October 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy and positive start to the term. The children are all thoroughly enjoying the new book based English units and it has been great to see the children really immersed in the new books we are using. A huge thanks to both yourselves and the SSA for helping to support the purchase of new books. Mrs Douch, our English Leader, will be leading a meeting in November to tell you all about our new approach to reading (see below for dates).

Music

We still have some spaces for children in violin. If your child is in Year 3 to 6 and wishes to learn the violin then please let us know. Mrs Masters, in the office, will be able to give you more details.

Year 3 have begun their year-long Listen to Me instrument programme. This term they are learning the ukulele. There will be a concert for parents at the end of term – dates will follow.

School Council, Junior Road Safety and House Captains

The children in Years 1-6 have recently elected their School Council representatives. Well done to all candidates. I was very impressed with how they carried out their election campaigns. They will be meeting with Mrs Lane (our new Year 3 teacher) on a regular basis to discuss issues and ideas for developing the school. Their first project is develop a new school charter for behaviour.

Our school Council Representatives are:

Year 1 – Tuula H and Ben L
Year 2 – Amy L and Matthew H
Year 3 – Owen C and Poppy C
Year 4 – Charlie B and Yasmin LB
Year 5 – Tom L and Sanskruti M
Year 6 – Sienna U and Harry Har

House Captains

After a close run election, Year 6 have elected the House Captains. Our House Captains are:

Mercury - Fraser LB and Hannah B
Neptune - Ethan G and Mia G
Apollo - Zack F and Maisy M
Saturn - Harry O and Amelia B

JRSO

Our trained pupil Junior Road Safety Officer is Erin l'Anson. She has recently attended a county training event with Mrs Osgood, who leads this initiative. Erin will be working with her JRSO team to help run events, assemblies and raise awareness of road safety. They have already held their first meeting and they are planning a Be Bright Be Seen Day (see below for more details).



Be Bright Be Seen – JRSO Event – Thursday 19th October

The Junior Road Safety Officers will be running a Be Bright Be Seen Event on the 19th October. We would like all children to dress in bright and light colours to help them remember the importance of wearing bright colours so they can be seen if walking on dark winter nights.

The JRSO's will be running various events and holding special assemblies during that week to help support the children's understanding of road safety.

What's New in the Classes?

We have just received delivery of new balance and co-ordination equipment to support the physical development of the children in Early Years. This has been part-funded from our sports grant and the SSA. Thank you to the SSA for supporting this worthwhile improvement to the school.

Attendance

I have noticed an increase in parents taking leave for holidays during school term. Whilst I appreciate parents wanting to save money on holidays, I cannot authorise these requests. I can only authorise requests that are of a highly exceptional nature and then, only if I am satisfied that they will not have a detrimental effect on your child's education.

Following the result of the Isle of Wight attendance test case, the local authority have once again begun issuing penalty notices.

There is an impact on any child missing school unless it cannot be helped, such as through illness. The government now require schools to ensure that children's attendance is at least 96% or above to ensure that they continue to make good progress.

I would also ask that parents try, where possible, to make medical appointments after school or in the afternoon, so that they do not impact on core teaching of Maths and English. Any medical appointments count as an absence even if your child comes in mid-morning.

Following discussions with parents last term, one idea presented was giving parents more of an oversight on attendance as the year goes on. To help with this we will be issuing attendance reports on a termly basis so that parents can firstly check the report for accuracy, but also see how attendance is over time. If you do find attendance is an issue for your child we are always happy to talk through ideas to help support this. Please contact me via the school office if this is the case.

For more information on attendance and the impact it can have on your child's education visit:

www3.hants.gov.uk/education/hias/learning-behaviour-attendance/attendance-guidance-for-parents/why-is-high-attendance-important-to-my-childs-education.htm

Harvest Festival

This year our Harvest Festival will be a short musical play entitled Harvest Rocks. All children from Year R to 6 will be taking part. You are very welcome to attend at 2.30pm on Friday 20th October.

This year we will be collecting food donations for Eastleigh Basics Bank.

This year they are particularly interested in collecting: tinned potatoes, washing-up liquid, deodorant, cook-in-sauces, tinned meats, jam, porridge, cereal, instant noodles as well as the usual soups, beans etc. Any donations are gratefully received and help make a difference to families who are struggling to make ends meet. Please bring donations into school in the morning via your child and their classroom.

Parents' Evening, Parents Forum and Head Teacher's Surgery

Parents Evening are Tuesday 31st October and Thursday 2nd November. Sign-up sheets for all classes will be in the Main entrance to the School from Monday 16th October.



I will be holding my usual Head Teachers Surgery. This is for parents who want to ask a question, raise a worry or have a chat about something that is outside the class teachers' usual remit or indeed if you have any ideas/suggestions to help us continue to improve. If you wish to meet with me, then please drop a note into Miss Blaker in the office who will arrange a suitable timeslot.

Following feedback from parents about timings for Parents' Forum, our Parents' Forum will be on Friday 1st December at 2.30 in the school hall. Miss Blaker will send out a letter asking for items for agenda nearer the time.

Mr Lyon's – Information for Year 6 Parents

Mr Lyon is awaiting the pitter-patter of tiny feet! He is due to go on two weeks paternity leave during November. He will notify parents via Parentmail once we have arrangements in place. Please do drop into see him if you have any questions or queries about this.

School Car Park and Driveway

As part of our safer routes to school approach, we try to reduce the amount of traffic on site. To help with this, I would like to remind parents not to park in the school car-park at the beginning or end of day, including when collecting from/dropping off at Rebecca's.

XPlore IT

Well done to our Year 5 team who came second out of ten schools in IBM's Xplore IT science, technology and maths event. I had really positive reports about their great attitude, resilience, and excellent computing and maths skills.

SSA

The SSA have held their first meeting of the year. They are already planning events for the children, as well as arranging fundraising activities and social events. The SSA make a huge difference to the experiences of the children at Scantabout. They are a really friendly group who are keen to welcome new members. If you are interested in helping or joining then please drop a note into the SSA post-box, just inside reception.

New Parents Coffee Morning (For all year groups)

The SSA and school will be holding a new parents coffee morning on Tuesday 14th November at 9.00-10.00. This is for parents who have children in Year R and also parents who are new to the school with children in different year groups. This is a chance to socialise with and get to know other new parents. If you would like to come please sign in via Reception.

Notices from the Office

If you are collecting your child from an after school activity, or Rebecca's, please may we ask you to ensure that the bottom gate is closed and the padlock reset.

Safeguarding and Child Protection Notice

An important part of the school's work is keeping your children safe. In school we have two trained safeguarding professionals who take the lead on this – called Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs).

The DSLs for Scantabout are:

Mrs Thomas - Head Teacher

Miss Lloyd - Deputy Head Teacher.

Last week I met with the School's Safeguarding Governor, Dave Brown, we completed the school's annual safeguarding audit for Hampshire Schools. Dave is there to challenge the DSLs in relation to safeguarding and help the school develop its approach to this important area. All school staff have regular child protection and safeguarding briefings, with them having an annual in-depth training session and a three-yearly externally delivered training. Our child protection policy is on our website for more information.

What to do if you are worried?

If you are concerned about the welfare of a child or indeed are finding it hard to meet the needs of your own child, then please do come and speak with us so that we can work together to support you and your family. We ask parents not to investigate themselves.

If you have a child protection concern over a member of staff, volunteer, governor or anyone using our premises, then please come and speak with the Head Teacher who will follow the school allegation procedures. If your child protection concern is about the Head Teacher, then your need to report this to the local authority via the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) who will follow their procedures.

There is more information on this on:

www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/safeguardingchildren/childprotection/reportingabuse

With Kind Regards,

Tina Thomas
Head Teacher

D A T E S F O R Y O U R D I A R Y - 2 0 1 7 / 1 8

Date	Event
12 th – 18 th October	Book Fair
19 th October	Be Bright Be Seen Road Safety – dress in bright colour day (all year groups)
20 th October	Harvest Assembly at 2.30pm
23 rd till 27 th October	HALF TERM
30 th October	INSET day
31 st October	Parents' Evening 4pm – 7pm
2 nd November	Parents' Evening 4pm – 7pm
3 rd November	Bag2School collection by 9am
10 th November	School photos
14 th November	New Parents' Coffee Morning (all year groups) 9am – 10am
16 th November	Flu vaccines for Year R,1,2,3,4 only. More information to follow after half term.
16 th November	Reading Information evening for parents in Key Stage 1 and 2 6pm – 7pm
23 rd November	Year 5 trip – more information to follow
1 st December	Parents' Forum 2.30pm
8 th December	SSA Christmas Fayre