



Scantabout Primary School

Achieving our best together.

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ACADEMIC YEAR 2018/2019

NEWSLETTER NO: 4

w/e: 2nd November 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back from the half term holidays and a very special welcome to Mrs Whitten, who has just begun her role with us, as Administration Assistant.

Thank you for everyone who came to Parents Evenings and those who came to my Head Teacher's Surgery. Parents Forum is on Friday 16th November at 2.30pm. You will be receiving a letter via your child's book bag that explains how you can suggest discussion topics. If you are intending to attend, please complete and return the slip attached to the letter so that we are aware of numbers expected on the day. Your ideas and thoughts do make a difference and help influence, either directly or indirectly, provision and improvements within the school.

It was lovely to see so many of you at the Harvest Assembly. The Eastleigh Food Bank was grateful for your very generous contributions. We have many other events planned over the coming weeks such as music, art and science, Technology and Engineering (STEM) events along with seasonal activities. Please keep an eye on the dates section within our weekly bulletins.

A few of the whole school events planned are as follows:



World in Miniature– STEM Microbiology Event

At the end of last half term, Mr Bhome visited the school to hold an assembly for our Key Stage 2 children about how microscopes are used within his work. Mr Bhome is one of our School Governors and a surgeon. He then worked alongside the Year 6 children as they explored cells using our new microscopes, as well as leading a question and answer session with the children. A huge thank you to Mr Bhome for taking time out of his busy schedule to work with us. I know how much the children enjoyed the session and how much Mr Bhome enjoyed working with the children. He was really impressed with the children's ideas and questions.

This week the children across the school have been taking part in a microscopes event to help them appreciate both elements of chemistry and biology at a microscopic level.

If you would like to drop in at the end of the day tomorrow (Friday), you can see some of the outcomes of the children's work in the hall.

Winter Art Morning - Thursday 20th December

The children will be taking part in a whole school art afternoon based on the theme of Winter. If you would like to help out on the afternoon please contact your class teacher.



Engineering STEM Day Friday 23rd November

Our second event this term for STEM will be our Engineering Day. The children from Year R to 6 will be taking part in various engineering challenges including bridge building, programming mechanisms as well as investing other structures.

I am very keen to ask if parents or grandparents could help on the day. Please email the school office if you are able to help. We would also love to hear from anyone who has either a robotics, engineering or programming background who would be able to help with event.

Thank you to the Ernest Cook Trust for their generous grant that has enabled us to improve our engineering and technology provision.

Remembrance Day – Art Afternoon – Friday 9th November

As it will be 100 years since the end of World War 1, we will be holding an art afternoon linked to peacetime and poppies. If you would like to help on that afternoon then please let your child's class teacher know.

As usual, we will be collection for the British Legion as we will be selling poppies and other Remembrance Day goods at break times.

Rock Steady and Listen to Me Concerts

Parents of children who take part in Rock Steady are cordially invited to our end of term rock performance at **2pm on Friday 7th December**. If your child is in Years 1 to 6 and would like to join Rock Steady then please enquire at the office. This is a wonderful way to build both confidence and music skills at the same time.

On Tuesday 18th December at 2.30 pm Year 3 parents are invited to the first Listen to Me concert of the year. The children will be showcasing their achievements in violin.

Literacy – Phonics and Spelling Information Evening – Wednesday 28th November at 6pm

Our parents' curriculum event this term will focus on our new Key Stage One phonics programme Monster Phonics and how we teach spelling across the school.

Volunteers Wanted

If you would like to help in your child's class or in any other way around the school, then please contact the school office. We are always on the look-out for parents and grandparents who want to share their time, interest and talents. At the moment we are particularly interested in people who could help with reading, short maths or spelling activities/games and to help run afternoon sessions in the library. We are also particularly interested in volunteers to run lunchtime clubs for up to 8 children at a time.

Please note that we follow Hampshire County Council safeguarding procedures; all volunteers are subject to safer recruitment checks and are required to have a DBS check.

Parking and Traffic Reminder

A polite reminder to ask parents to park outside the school to reduce the amount of traffic on site. If you do need to enter the school grounds by car, then please use the one-way system via the Tivoli Close entrance. If entering during the school day please check that the school gates are shut after you. During the school day, the pedestrian gate at the bottom of the playground is locked. Please enter the school via the main school entrances on either Tivoli or Ionic Close.

I have had a very positive comment from a local resident, who has reported that parents are being much more considerate when parking their cars. Thank you for this. It is very much appreciated.

Seasonal Events

Our Nativity for Year R to 2 children will be on Wednesday 12th December in the school hall. There will be a daytime performance at 9.30 a.m and an evening performance starting at 6 p.m.

As Thornden Hall is unlikely to be open, following structural issues, before Christmas, we will be holding our end of year carol concert in school on Friday 21st December. The time is yet to be confirmed. Parents are very welcome to join us for this event, although due to the size of the hall we would request that only one or two people from each family attend. Hopefully, once Thornden Hall is up and running we can once again use their facilities.

Christmas Lunch is on Wednesday 19th December. Details will be confirmed nearer the time.

Class parties will be on Thursday 20th in the afternoon, after our Winter Art morning.

Christmas Fair – Friday 14th December

Don't forget our Christmas Fair. If you are available to help either setting up, running a stall or clearing up afterwards, then please let your class SSA representative know or leave a note in the SSA black letter box inside the reception area. The SSA will be asking for donations soon for the chocolate and bottle tombolas.

INSET Day - Monday 12th November

On our INSET day the staff will be having first aid training and training on the management of allergies and anaphylaxis. School will be open again as normal on Tuesday 13th.

Safeguarding at Scantabout School

If you are concerned about a child's safeguarding then please come and speak to the school's Designated Safeguarding Leads:

Tina Thomas (Head Teacher)

Ali Lloyd (Deputy Head Teacher)

If you are concerned about the Head Teacher, in relation to child protection, please contact the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) on XXXX or contact the Chair of Governor, Steve Bowyer.

If you would like any support or guidance in relation to your own child's welfare or online safety there are some excellent resources for parents on the following websites:

www.safe4me.co.uk

www.childline.org.uk

www.nspcc.org.uk

www.hampshiresafeguardingchildrenboard.org.uk/parents-and-carers/

School uniform and PE clothing

As the weather is getting colder may we please remind you of the importance of packing warm PE clothing for your child. The children will have their PE lessons outside unless it is raining and therefore a warm pair of tracksuit bottoms and / or a sweatshirt will be needed.

We have recently had a cull of the lost property as we were accumulating a large quantity of lost jumpers. Any lost property is returned to the classroom as soon as possible unless the items are not named. Therefore please can you ensure your child's clothing is clearly labelled, including coats and hats.

Sadly at the end of last term a bag of school uniform was lost after football Club. The bag was left within the Year 6 classroom and all uniform is clearly named. We would be grateful if you could double check your child's clothing in case this has been taken home by mistake.

Scantabout School Association – Aviva Project

We need your votes !!!! Voting has now opened. Please find attached a flyer from the SSA giving details on how you can vote. We have already received in the region of 1200 votes which is amazing. But we need a lot more votes. If we can progress to the next round we are in with a chance of securing £5,000 funding to build a traversing wall within the school grounds. Please spread the word and vote. The more votes we get the better chance of success we have.

Have a wonderful half term.

With kind regards,

Tina Thomas

Dates for diary

Date	Event
4th November	Year 4 School trip
6th November	Year 1 school trip – please arrive by 8.30am
9th November	Pupil individual photographs
9th November	SSA Autumn Disco – KS1 6pm KS2 7pm - £3 per ticket – see attached flyer
11th November	SSA School Grounds Session – 1.30pm till 4pm
12th November	INSET Day
13th November	Flu Vaccine for Years R to 5
15th November	SSA Parents Present Wrapping Social – please see attached flyer
16th November	Parents Forum – 2.30pm
16th November	Bags 2 School collection – 9am
16th November	Children in Need dressing up day – hats, headscarves. Donations will be collected
23rd November	Engineering STEM day
27th November	SSA meeting – 7.45pm at King Rufus Pub – all welcome
6th and 7th December	SSA Parents Present event during school time – please see attached flyer
7th December	Rocksteady concert – 2.30pm – Rocksteady Parents only
12th December	Key Stage 1 Nativity productions
14th December	Christmas Fayre
18th December	Year 3 Listen2Me concert - Year 3 parents only
19th December	Christmas Lunch
14th January	INSET Day
15th February	INSET Day
2nd May	INSET Day

School Governors' News

Welcome to the first update from the Governing Body during 2018-19. We have had a busy and eventful half term, which I am pleased to be able to tell you about. After that, I would like to tell you a little more about what a School Governor does.

Our first meeting of the year was on 6th September: we had an evening of Full Governing Body training with Ross Irving, the school's Lead Learning Partner, on preparing for an Ofsted inspection and the governors' role in evaluating and monitoring the school. This was informative and positive training and we were pleased with the direction in which the school is moving.

The following week, we held a Full Governing Body meeting, on 12th September. We started with an introduction from the new Chair and Vice Chair, Mrs Thomas' Head Teacher's report informed us about progress made under the School Development Plan in 2017-18, we heard the Inclusion Leader's report, approved a new Co-opted Governor and reviewed a range of policies.

Governors have also been in monitoring this term. To give you a flavour of the range of monitoring, this has included: a visit from one of the governors looking at the teaching of RE, PHSCE and how teachers are using Class Discussion time. She also attended a class assembly. The Early Years' Governor has spent a morning in school meeting the new class and checking settling in arrangements, as well as watching a phonics lesson in Years R and 1. Amongst some of the other monitoring, the Safeguarding, Inclusion, Finance, Health, and Safety Governors have also visited this term.

A couple of weeks later was the first meeting of the Resources committee, on 27th September. There was a full and enlightening discussion around Safeguarding, Finance, including Pay, the Budget and Spending and finally a report on Premises and Health and Safety.

We look forward to a busy run up to Christmas: as well as all the school festivities, we have another full set of meetings, which I look forward to telling you about before we break up for the holiday.

What do Governors do?

A school's Governing Body provides strategic leadership and accountability in schools. It has three key functions:

- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent
- Holding the school to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction

School Governors monitor the strategic direction of the school. supporting and challenging decisions which are made by the school's senior teachers. In action, this means:

- Holding the school to account for financial decisions
- Managing budgets and helping to decide which strategic direction is taken
- Engaging with pupils, staff, parents and the school community
- Sitting on the Full Governing Body, on the Resources committee and/or being part of the Data Working Group and making decisions relevant to each body
- Addressing a range of education issues within the school
- Looking at data and evidence to ask questions about the education of the pupils

Best wishes and remember to wrap up warm as winter approaches!

Steve Bowyer

Chair of Governor