



Newsletter 4
Autumn Term 2014
Friday, 26th September



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had lots of visitors coming into school this week. On Tuesday, Dr Gemma Reynolds came in to work with some of the KS2 children as part of her research project into phobias. She would like me to pass on her thanks to the participants; it was lovely for me to hear that the children were polite and helpful whilst engaging in the short task. We also had a very productive PFA meeting in school on Tuesday evening. Lots of exciting activities are now in the diary for the children to enjoy and to help raise some additional funds for school projects in the future.

On Wednesday we had an assembly from the 'More Life' campaign team, raising the importance of getting lots of physical exercise and healthy eating. We have also reminded the children that crisps and chocolate biscuits are permitted as part of a balanced lunchbox but are not to be consumed at morning break time. Today, Class 3 had a visit from the fire brigade to talk about fire safety in the home; the children should be coming home to remind you to check your smoke alarms!

Morrisons are once again running their 'Let's Grow' voucher scheme. Last year, we used our vouchers towards a compost bin, a small insect hotel, vegetable seeds and some kneeler pads. As we now have a lovely wildlife garden and a very active Gardening Club at Cressing, we would really appreciate your help to collect as many vouchers as possible.

This year, Mrs Hendry will be co-ordinating the 'Operation Christmas Child' project at Cressing. Last year, we managed to put a hand knitted toy in every box (all 30 of them). Leaflets were sent home yesterday with suggestions about what can be included in the covered shoe boxes. If you are able to knit, Mrs Hendry has patterns and suggestions as to the types of knitted toys that could be included in the boxes.

Today was the last day for 3 of our pupils; we would all like to wish Willow James, Tom Craddock and Jake Craddock the very best of luck in their new schools.

Next week, we will be beginning to collect non-perishable food donations for our Harvest Celebrations in school. They will be split between the local Food Bank and also the Women's Refuge in Braintree. Any store cupboard items that you wish to donate can be sent in from Monday 29th September until Friday 10th October. Please check the use by date before sending in any items.

From next week, we will be beginning the school day more efficiently. When the first bell rings in the playground and the children line up, parents will need to vacate the playground. The second bell indicates that teachers will be collecting their classes, gates will be locked and registration will begin promptly at 8.50am. The children's safety is a high priority, there will always be an adult on each gate in the morning, so that children can be dropped off and supervised from 8.40am. We would appreciate your support in trying to improve this, as we need adults and children in classes and ready to start their learning promptly at 9am. If you do arrive after 8.50am, then you will need to enter school via the main office.

Next week, our maths open mornings will be taking place. These short workshops (**9.00 – 9.30am**) will be an opportunity for you to spend time in class with your child. Due to space restrictions and possible distractions, please try to avoid bringing younger siblings into these sessions.

Class 5 – Monday 29th September

Class 4 – Tuesday 30th September

Class 2 – Wednesday 1st October

Class 3 – Thursday 2nd October

Class 1 – Friday 3rd October

Class R will be arranging separate "Stay and Play" sessions from the week beginning Monday 13th October. The Foundation children have really enjoyed staying for lunch this week and we look forward to them joining us full time from Monday 29th September.

This week's Stars of the week are:

Class R – Elizabeth Hunt for working really hard to learn her sounds

Class 1 – Willow James for always being happy and helpful in class

Class 2 – Leah Melamed for her good attitude towards all of her learning

Class 3 – Dakota Torrens for doing extra homework and producing some super creative writing

Class 4 – Carly Mann for gaining confidence with her time work during maths

Class 5 – Aysia Maniam for her beautifully presented leaflet containing interesting facts

Well done to all these children for impressing their teachers.

Attendance

The attendance data for every class is collected each week. The winning class this week is **Class 2** with **99.4 %**.

House points

Lots of house points have been collected across the school this week for achievement and good behaviour, the champions this week are the **Normans** with **243** points. Well done!

Reminders

School Admissions

For secondary applications apply by 31st October and primary applications apply between 10th November 2014 and 15th January 2015 – www.essex.gov.uk/admissions

Bonfire Night Menu – please return to school by Friday 10th October, indicating whether your child would like the hot dinner menu ordering or if they will be bringing a packed lunch.

If your child will be attending the Kingswood residential trip in September 2015 please return the paperwork and £40 deposit by Friday 10th October so that we can finalise our booking.

The PFA would like to request any good quality, outgrown uniform that may you have at home in preparation for their uniform sale on Wednesday 22nd October.

Diary dates for this Half term

Monday 29th September – Friday 3rd October – Parent workshops in classes **9.00am** (see details above)

Thursday 2nd October – Rickstones Taster Day

Tuesday 7th October - **9.15am** – **Foundation & KS1** Harvest Festival (non-perishable donations welcome)

Wednesday 8th October - **9.15am** – **KS2** Harvest Festival (non-perishable donations welcome)

Friday 10th October - PFA organised KS1 disco **5.15pm-6.30pm** and KS2 disco **6.45pm-8.15pm**

Tuesday 21st October – Individual pupil photographs

Tuesday 21st October - **3.30-5.30pm** Parents' Evening

Wednesday 22nd October – PFA organised second hand uniform and cake sale

Thursday 23rd October - **5.00- 7.30pm** Parents' Evening

Friday 24th October – Non pupil day

Monday 27th October /Friday 31st October – Half term

Next week, we will be on Week 3 of the Autumn Menu. School dinners cost £2 per day (KS2).
All meals must be paid for in advance please.

Miss Rainford



(Head of School)

26/09/2014