



Monday 13th November 2017

Diary Dates:

November:

- 14th Reception cinema trip
- 15th Nasal flu vaccines R-4
- 17th 5M sport skills academy
- 17th **Cake sale**
- 20th KS1 assessment week
- 21st Governors' finance meeting
- 22nd Governors' data meeting
- 24th RM sport skills academy

December:

- 1st RFM sport skills academy
- 4th KS2 assessment week
- 4th Full Governors meeting
- 6th Christmas Dinner
- 7th FOL Discos
- 8th 6F sport skills academy
- 9th FOL Breakfast with Santa
- 11th Christmas Presentation SASW
- 12th KS1 Performance 2:00
- 13th KS1 Performance 9:30
- 15th Awards assembly
- 18th Class parties [TBA]
- 19th Class parties [TBA]
- 20th Church service at Emmanuel
- 20th **SCHOOL ENDS FOR CHRISTMAS BREAK 2:00**

January 2018

- 8th Return to school

Dear Parents,

Thank you to the overwhelming majority of parents that took the time to attend parent meetings last week. Hopefully you found the meetings useful and informative in terms of your child's progress.

Despite some teething troubles, 80% of children had parents appointments booked directly through the app with a further 10% making bookings with support from school staff. More importantly, according to our records virtually all children in school now have at least one parent connected via the app. This means we can send out the vast majority of messages with no additional cost to school as opposed to the texting service which has a cost attached to each text sent.

Children in Need:

Children in need is this coming Friday 17th November. The school council has decided to do a cake sale to raise funds and would like donations of cakes to sell. Please send in any donations to your child's class on either Thursday or Friday. Children will be able to buy cakes in KS1 hall on Friday at morning break. This is **not** a mufti day so children should attend in uniform as normal, however they can add spotty accessories to uniform for the day if they wish.

Balls / toys from home and outdoor play equipment:

Please do not allow children to bring in balls or toys from home. Balls are provided for each class to use outside when appropriate. Also, please do not allow children to use the Junior outdoor play equipment before and after school. It should only be used during school hours when there is staff supervision available.

Parent Governors:

I am pleased to say that, following my second request for parent governor interest, we now have two new parent governors ready to commence their duties. Once the formalities have been concluded, I will write again with their details and areas of responsibility.

Parent / toddler group:

This group has been run by Linaker Children's centre for the past few months, following the changes to Parenting 2000. Prior to half-term we were notified that Linaker would no longer be able to continue to support the group. I am very happy to announce that we have set up an arrangement with Crossens Nursery whereby we will operate the group jointly, under the expert hand of Mrs. Peart.



Lunch money and orders:

From time to time we have an issue with lunch money not being paid on time so I thought it might be useful to explain the impact of this from the school point of view.

As you are aware, we have to place meal orders in advance so that the catering service can order produce from their suppliers. This also applies to children who have free school meals. *If we don't have orders in advance, your child may not get the meal they want, but will have to have whatever there is available.* In the best case, money is sent in with the order and parents don't have to think about it again until the next order is sent out. We appreciate that this can be a significant amount of money, which is why we also allow the option of weekly payment. Payment should *always be made in advance*, so Monday morning is actually the *very latest* time it should be paid for the current week. If paid on Monday morning, the register can be brought up to date for the week and the office staff don't need to take any further action. If money doesn't come in on a Monday, *you are automatically in arrears* and the office will send a reminder, they then have to check each day to see if payment has been made and update the register accordingly, plus send further reminders, which is an additional amount of work and obviously prevents them from doing other tasks.

At the end of each week, Mrs. Craven has to submit a report to Sefton, detailing payments made and money owing. If arrears build up, we have to forward the amounts to Sefton, to be chased by the legal team. You will appreciate that all this is time consuming and takes up more time than it should when people don't support us by paying on time.

I hope that this explanation goes some way towards showing the school point of view and that you will be able to support us by ensuring that both orders and payments are submitted on time.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. J. Ward
Head Teacher

