

# Newsletter



Newsletter 21

19<sup>th</sup> July, 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

I cannot believe we are nearly at the end of another happy and successful school year. I would like to take this opportunity to offer my extreme gratitude to everyone who makes the school such a lovely place for children and staff to live and work in. Firstly – the children. The children are at the heart of everything we do, and every decision made. They bring joy, fun and laughter to our each and every day, and it is a privilege to be with such kind, thoughtful and happy children.

Secondly you - our parents, aunts, uncles and grandparents, are endlessly supportive and encouraging – we really value your thoughtful comments and helpful feedback. Your commitment to working with us to support not just the children's learning, but also their social skills, positive attitude and behaviour is much valued. You enable and encourage the children in accessing so many different activities and opportunities within and outside the school day – sports, dance events, school trips and competitions. So many of you help in various capacities, including as school helpers, with the Eco Team and with the PTFA – who raise so much money to enhance the children's learning.

Next, our Governors, who are all volunteers, but give their time freely and willingly, to ensure they fulfil their roles effectively. Over time, more and more duties and responsibilities have been given to them and they have always been positive in embracing this and ensure that they have the skills, knowledge and training to fulfil the role effectively.

Last, but certainly not least, I would like to thank our school team. Their commitment to the children and the school is unstinting and they work tirelessly to provide the best teaching and care throughout the day, but also a dazzling array of additional opportunities at lunchtimes, breaktimes and after school. Every teacher, and a number of the support staff, run a club (sometimes more than one!), they give up their 'normal life and free time' to make three residential trips possible, they attend a huge number of events in their evenings and are the most harmonious, enthusiastic, fun group of people I could ever wish to work with.

I sincerely hope that you and your children have enjoyed the year as much as I have, and that you are able to enjoy a relaxing time together over the Summer Holidays.

HOW LUCKY I AM TO HAVE  
SOMETHING THAT MAKES  
SAYING GOODBYE SO HARD.



## Goodbye Year 6

It is always very hard to say goodbye to our Year 6 children. I have known many of them since they were babies and the majority have been with us for 8 years. It is always a pleasure to see their skills and talents grow, develop and shine as they go through school and to see the capable, confident leaders they have become in Year 6. They help and support us through undertaking a series of tasks and responsibilities and we really appreciate the way they contribute to the general smooth running of the school. I have many memories of quite exceptional acts of kindness, laughter and lots of fun activities we have shared with them, including school

residential trips, plays and celebration days. We wish them every happiness in their new schools and look forward to them visiting us in the future.

The secondary schools they are going to are as follows:

Hitchin Boys: 7	Monks Walk: 5	Richard Hale: 1
Hitchin Girls: 9	St. Albans High Schools: 1	Sandringham: 1
Nobel: 1	Thomas Alleyne: 1	Sherrardswood: 1
Fearnhill: 2	Barnwell: 1	

We are also most grateful to their parents, who have helped us in so many ways. As governors, PTFA committee members and regular helpers, they support not only their own children, but others in the class too. We are very sad to be saying goodbye to some of our parents too, as they do not have any children lower down in the school, although some will have continuing contact in other roles, including the following families: Bicks, Blacks, Chikaviros, Currells (after 16 years), Fennelows, Folges, Freemans, Kanes, McMenemys, Newberrys, Pedleys, Quinlans, Sloans, Stewarts, Swinburnes, Thomases, Toals (after 16 years too!). We hope they will always feel welcome at our school.



### **Babies!**

We are now awaiting the arrival of our new school babies with great excitement! Mrs Wood finished on Wednesday, and Mrs Mason will be finishing on Tuesday. We wish them the very best and will update you as soon as we have news!



### **Village Day**

We are all looking forward to Village Day, and appreciate everyone who has helped us with the preparations. We are grateful for the fantastic jars you have sent in – these lovely items can be won back tomorrow! A huge thank you to Sophie Churchill and Nicola Crawford who have literally been working night and day to create the costumes and props for our float, and to Lyndsay Robinson who has been an amazing assistant. The children will look fantastic! Any child who missed the deadline of returning the slip is welcome to join us in the parade, even if they do not have a costume. We will try to find props for them to carry. If they have something bright or blue to wear, that would be brilliant. It appears we may have thought of a particularly appropriate theme this year! We will be meeting the children at The Opening, at 12.30, ready to leave at 12.45.

The Dancers will be performing a little earlier at 4.00 p.m. now, so please could they meet me by the maypole at 3.45, so that I can sort everyone into their dancing pairs? Thank you too, to the multi- talented and kind Ms Jennings, who has decorated the maypole crown beautifully for us again. All costumes should be at home by now – if they have been forgotten, I will be in school for the Music Club production tonight, so you will be able to collect them from school. Tomorrow, school will be closed as we will all be at Village Day.

Thank you for your support! I am sure we will all have a brilliant day!



### **Hoodwinked!**

I am sure that everyone who came along to watch Hoodwinked! would agree that it was a spectacular production filled with fun, energy, good humour and enthusiasm! The children's singing, dancing and acting were amazing, and we were really impressed with the level of talent and quality of performances. It was lovely to see how confident and successful the Year 6 children were in the lead roles. The team work amongst the children was fantastic and reflected the hard work of a huge number of staff. Our thanks go to Mrs Mesher, Mrs Ogle, Miss Bass and Thomas Pyle for directing and producing the show, to Mrs Foster – specialist vocal coach, to Mrs Abrahams and Mr Browne on lighting and to Miss Grainger and Mrs Pyle for running props club and for being our stage hands on the night. I look forward to the second night.



### **326**

With our Year 6 children leaving, we now have a limited number of vacancies at 326 Club. The club runs every evening, after school until 6 p.m. Further details are available from the Office, or Mrs Mansell and there is a page on the school website: <https://codicote.herts.sch.uk/parents-families/326-after-school-club/>



### **Sports day**

On Monday, we will be holding Sports Day. In the morning, from 9.30, Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 will be completing circuits of activities, followed by flat races, all to win points for their houses. In the afternoon, from 1.15, it will be Years 3-6 competing for the House Trophy. We plan to go ahead, whatever the weather, unless it is unsafe for children, so please take this into account when planning your wardrobe for the day!

The children will be sitting on the shaded side, near the hedge, with spectators on the other side. All adults need to stay on the spectator side of the track, and to keep the finish line clear – some children find it very daunting to run towards a crowd and it creates difficulty for the judges to identify and issue cards to the winners. Children may wear a t-shirt or badge in their house colours. They will need hats and water bottles.

Refreshments will be served throughout, and after sports day, so parents wishing to treat their child to a piece of cake, or a drink will be able to do so after the event. All parents and grandparents are welcome!



### **Last Day**

Year 6 parents are warmly welcomed to join us at St.Giles Church, at 10 a.m. on the last day of term for the Leavers' Service. If they wish, they may walk up with us, or meet us at church. Sunglasses are advised – regardless of the weather!

At 1.15, we will meet on the Year 6 playground, to present the attendance medals and say farewell to Year 6. This is expected to finish at 1.45 p.m., and all families are welcome to join us.



### **Free Fresh vegetables!**

Over the summer holidays, you are welcome to help yourself to the fruit and vegetables being grown in the Year 2 allotment. The main gate is open for a number of weeks over the holidays, if you are passing, or the side gate can be opened using the usual code – please ask a Nursery parent, or in the office if you are not aware of what this is!



### **Danceaid**

We would like to make you aware of a community family event taking place on 7th September which is organised by the charity Danceaid – please follow this link for more information: <http://danceaid.org./pitp/>

I hope you all have a very enjoyable holiday, and look forward to seeing the children on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 8.55 a.m.

Please remember that I am always happy to discuss any issues with you. Thank you for reading this newsletter.

Yours sincerely,

Liz Pollard, Headteacher