

# Newsletter



Newsletter 10

21st January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have really enjoyed the 'normal' start to term and have continued to be impressed with the children's work and behaviour. It has been lovely to be able to continue to re-introduce activities in school. This week we enjoyed our first class assembly for almost two years – with Year 3M sharing their learning with us. It was fantastic! All being well, we expect to be able to invite parents back to indoor assemblies next term.



## Football – County Competition

Good luck to our Senior Football Team who have a County competition tomorrow. We are proud of you for reaching this stage! Go Codicote Go!



## School Expansion

The school expansion project is progressing well. Bids for the work have been received and the local authority will be appointing a contractor shortly. It is expected that internal works to the existing building will be completed first, over the Summer holidays, including moving the stock cupboard, installing additional adult toilets, removing the wall between the hall and the dining room and increasing office space.

Other work, which will be completed over the coming months, funded by the school, includes:

- Replacement of the canopy by Years 1-4.
- Refurbishment of the Year 1 classroom – redecoration and flooring
- Re-modelling of the back playground to include seating.
- Replacement of the steps and decking outside Year 5, to create a continuous level pathway from the field to the double doors.

Once the school has ownership of the field across the footpath, it will be fenced, levelled and seeded. In the meantime, we will still have use of part of the field during the construction phase.

A [School Expansion page](#) has been added to our school website; this will be updated regularly as more information becomes available. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.



### **School Grounds – Can you help?**

The children really enjoy the Forest Schools programme, and we would like to extend this further. So, we have started developing a woodland area on our school site in the bottom corner of the school field, for children to use in different areas of the curriculum. We have been growing small trees which are now ready to plant and have funding for larger trees. Mrs Ogle has been busy drawing up plans.

At the moment, the area we want to use is quite wild with lots of brambles, which need to be cleared before we can make a start. Once we have the ground work completed, we can move ahead with planting, and the area can be left to grow, during the building period. Although our children are amazing, this is beyond their capabilities! If this is something you would be able to help us with, we would love to hear from you.



### **Dates**

After sending out the newsletter I noticed that a date was incorrect. The Year 6 Transition Day to secondary school actually takes place on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July. Children spend the day at their new schools, and the other year groups have time with their new teachers. Further dates for your diary are included in the PTFA section below.



### **PTFA**

Thank you very much for your very generous support of our events before Christmas, which raised funds to pay for the coaches to the pantomime. As well as sponsoring larger items, we also contribute towards resources, equipment and events which enhance the children's learning. All of the outdoor apparatus, as well as the minibus, have been paid for by the PTFA.

We are now fundraising for a new trim trail, which will be installed on the field once the building work has been completed. The trim trail is very popular and used by all classes when

they are on the field. However, it has been in place for a long time and, section by section, we have had to remove it as parts have become rotten. The School Council children have been looking at different options, and have found an exciting range of pieces which can be included. All of these have a high play value, as well developing key skills, and include sections accessible by anyone with limited mobility.

We have planned a number of events for the coming months these include:

**Big Breakfast:** Bacon rolls, pastries, hot and cold drinks – a great way to start a Friday morning! All offers of help welcome! 8:30 a.m. 28<sup>th</sup> January

**PTFA Meeting:** Come along and help us to plan the events you and your children would like to come to. 7:00 p.m. 3<sup>rd</sup> March

**Mothering Sunday Shopping:** Children can shop in a family group, or on their own to buy a gift for their parent. a.m. 25<sup>th</sup> March

**Children's Night Out!** Disco if covid restriction allow, or Film night. 5:30 p.m. or 6 p.m.– depending on event, 25<sup>th</sup> March

**Summer Do!** Barbecue, bar & live music 6.30 p.m. 25<sup>th</sup> June

We also plan on holding a Spring Raffle – any donations of prizes would be much appreciated.

Last term, we received match funding from the company one of our parents works for and this doubled the amount we raised at Film Night. If this is something your company does, we would be delighted to hear from you.



### **Lost Property**

We have a number of brand new fleeces and sweatshirts in lost property without names. If your child has recently lost any items of uniform, it is worth checking in the boxes by the double doors between Year 4 and 326.

Please could you check to ensure your children's clothes and shoes are named. We have approximately 2,760 items of clothing coming into school each day and hope to send the same number home – hopefully matched to the right children. Any help with this is greatly appreciated!



### **Before School Activity Sessions**

I am pleased to inform you that there will be free 'taster' activity sessions, run before school, for Key Stage 2 children on Tuesdays and Fridays by Lucas Murley. Children attending the sessions already will be also be given a free session. Details regarding these sessions will be sent out via Schoolcomms.



### **Community News**

#### **Codicote Women's Institute – SOS**

Ladies please help! Due to declining members, (age related health reasons) our village is in danger of losing their small friendly Women's Institute that has been running for over a hundred years due to lack of members. The W.I. is a longstanding traditional organisation and supports 'Sisterhood' and good causes both local and national. If you are interested please come along to the PMH for a visit (£3) for tea and cake, chat and listen to the forthcoming following speakers –

- Tues 15th Feb - The Poor Child's Friend, talk by Andy Gibb from the Hitchin British Schools Trust.
- Tues 15th March - The Galilean Kitchen (cookery dem) by Ruth Neiman.
- Tues 19th April - Monet's Garden, talk by Bruce Bennett.
- Tues 17th May - AGM.
- Tues 21st June - Social evening with display of the WI scrapbooks and other 'treasures'.
- Tues 19th July - Members meeting

We would warmly welcome new members and are open to any fresh suggestions/changes as to the way forward.

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

Liz Pollard  
HEADTEACHER