

# Newsletter

Newsletter 16

2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

I cannot believe how close we are to the end of term! As ever, the children have been brilliant, and continued to do their best in everything. Last week our assembly theme was perseverance and this week it has been resilience – the children have shown so many examples of these – during lockdown and beyond, and we are continually impressed with their optimism and positive attitude towards everything. Thank you for the way you support them and encourage them, during these unusual times!

We are keen to ensure the children have some fun events to end the year, and to keep the children safe to enjoy planned holidays. For these reasons, whatever the announcement on July 19<sup>th</sup>, we will continue with the arrangements as detailed in this letter. We are very excited about being able to welcome you back to school events again!



## Year 6 Days Out

As our lovely Year 6 children were not able to go on their residential journey this year, we organised an activity week for them instead. This included: A trip to the river, a day kayaking and paddleboarding, sledging at the Snow Dome and a visit to Dunstable Downs, Go-Karting and Laser Quest and a cycling day around Fairlands Valley. The children had a fantastic week, and we were exceptionally proud of their behaviour – the leaders on the sailing day said they were the best children they had ever had! They have been a remarkable group of children and we have been so impressed with them. Thank you very much to the Year 6 staff for making this week possible.



## Sporting Successes!

We were delighted to hear of the success of the Stevenage under 11s Football team, which includes one of our Year 5 children – Elvis Shaw. The Stevenage team had their last event of the season, which included the final eight teams, from a competition involving 21 teams across the country. After a very tough competition, they finished first and were awarded the gold medals! This was a really big achievement, given that they are the smallest district taking part and were competing against big city teams!

We also love to keep in touch with our children who are now at secondary school, and are delighted to hear of their successes. Jacob Vickers is currently ranked second in the under 15 high jump, nationally, Alex Kirk – who is signed to Arsenal playing for the under 21 team has been training regularly with the first team, and Tom Sharples has been competing as part of the GB

junior cycling team! All three boys showed an exemplary attitude as well as the hard work ethos needed to achieve this success throughout their time here with us. It is very exciting to think that a Codicote School child may one day represent our country on a national stage! Let's dream big!



### Collection from classes

If you have made different arrangements from usual, for collecting your child from school, even if it is a playdate, please can you ensure that you have told their teacher, or the School Office in the morning? If you have to make last minute arrangements, it is best to call the office for a message to be passed on, as there are a number of reasons why an email may not be seen at short notice. If we are not aware of changes, we will keep the children with us until we have spoken to you.



### Ducklings and Quails!



As you know, we have been rearing our little group of rescue ducklings, found by Mrs Abrahams in her front garden. Under Miss Grainger and Year 2's loving care, they soon grew into strong and healthy ducks, and the day came, for them to be released back into the wild! Year 2 took them down to the River Mimram and released them there. Miss Grainger was very brave, seeing them swim away and she and Mrs Pyle only went back twice that day to check they were all ok! The Year 2 children wrote the following accounts:

- Mrs Abrahams found them in her back garden. Their mum abandoned them because a cat chased her away. Miss Grainger looked after them for a couple of weeks. Her garden got really messy. We decided to move them into the River Mimram. We watched them in the River. They all bunched together and a random duck went zooming across. Bobby E-K
- I felt happy because we released the ducks. I miss the ducks. William U
- I felt really sad and really happy. Sad because I didn't want to leave them but happy because they were happy and that makes me happy. Charlie
- Today we went to the River Mimram to release the ducks. It was so much fun. We had a paddle in the river. It was the best day ever. Esme
- Today when I watched the ducks swim I felt a tickling inside my belly. Chiara
- When we released the ducks we loved it. It will be something that we will never forget. Lylah
- I was shocked to see how big the ducks had got. We saw a speedy duck. The ducks ate some peas and buds. Miss Grainger was so happy. Seb
- The ducks wanted to explore the river before they got used to swimming in it. They wanted to go back to Miss Grainger because they thought she was their mummy. Maddie
- We released the ducks that used to be ducklings into the River Mimram. All of us were really excited. Mollie
- Miss Grainger fed them some peas. They ate them all up. The ducks lived happily ever after in the River Mimram. The End. George Sh`



I will be adding photos and videos to the school website, to share their life story! To help us to get over the loss of the ducklings, we are now hatching quails – they are adorable!



### Sponsored Walk

This week, the children will have brought home Sponsored Walk forms – the walk takes place next Friday. Children will be participating in class groups, over a staggered time period. The race will be on to see who can complete the most laps in the time frame given! All children will be given an ice pop after taking part. We would really appreciate the return of forms and sponsor money by Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July, so that it can be banked before the end of term. Thank you for supporting this event – next year we hope to bring back the Big Breakfast with it!



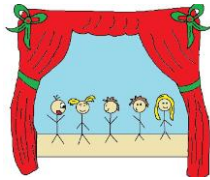
### Sports Days

As you will be aware from the term dates sent out in April, our Sports Day will take place on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July; Nursery – Year 2 in the morning, and Years 3-6 in the afternoon. Children will be sitting in their class groups. Spectators will be on the other side of the track – we will not be able to have anyone crossing this to speak to their children, or waiting for them at the finishing line. We will be pleased to welcome two supporters per family – it is with great disappointment that we will not be able to also have older children, as we love seeing them again, but expect to revert to usual in 2022. We will not be selling refreshments this year.



### Countdown to the Summer Holidays - End of term events

Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>
	2 p.m. Second group of New Nursery children and parents visiting		Classes meeting their new teachers.  Online moving up day for Year 6.	Sponsored Walk
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>
		a.m. Year 6 Play – dress rehearsal – outdoor performance to school.	Year 6 Production 7:00 p.m	Year 6 Production 7:00 p.m
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup>		
	9.30 Nursery, Reception & KS1 Sports  1.15 KS 2 Sports	10.00 Leavers' Service on the field – Year 6 parents warmly welcomed  1.15 Farewell to Year 6 in Courtyard – Year 6 families are warmly invited.  1.45 Term ends		



### **Year 6 Play**

As you are aware, we are limiting the audience numbers to 58 for the Year 6 production. Next week, we will be sending two tickets home to Year 6 families, for each performance. If you do not need any of these tickets, please could they be returned to the school office, to be re-distributed. If you would like additional tickets for either night, please could you return the form below, and we will send them home if they become available? We plan to hold the production outside, but will still be within the permitted numbers if we have to move it indoors. We look forward to enjoying the production with you.

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

Liz Pollard  
HEADTEACHER

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I would like ..... (number) tickets for Thursday/Friday (please delete as necessary)

Name of child: .....

Year 6