

Newsletter



Newsletter 2

September 22nd 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a great start to the Autumn Term! The children have settled really well into their new classes and the KS2 children and staff are enjoying being in the new building. It is lovely to have so much space, inside and outside for everyone too. We are still waiting for a few things to be completed, including the main gates being mended.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, we will be meeting Years 1 to 6 at St. Giles next Wednesday, with Reception and Nursery children staying in school as usual. Breakfast Club children will be taken up to church by staff. Donations for the Bishop's Harvest Appeal, *Cracking Food Poverty Together* will be welcomed.



School Photos

Next week, School Photographs will be taken on Thursday 28th September – younger siblings are welcome to come along to be included in family groups before school. Please let the school office know if you would like to do this by Wednesday so we know who to expect.



House Captains

Congratulations to the Year 6 children who have been elected as House Captains! We have three house captains in Mimram as there was a tie in votes.

	Bury	Lodge	Mimram	St. Giles
House Captains	Will & Naomi	Evelyn & Brad	Hattie, Amber & William	Alex & Mya
Vice Captains	Fin & Emma	Kaci & Daniel	James L	Jude and Leonka



School Council

Congratulations too, to the School Council members for this year:

Reception:

To be announced

Year 1

Scarlet & Sophie

Year 2

Liliana & Henry

Year 3

Miri & Erin

Year 4

Lily & George

Year 5

Elsa & George RO

Year 6

Mya & Jake



326 Breakfast & After School Club

Key Information:

- Breakfast Club Lead: Emma McKenzie
- After School Club Lead: Sue Mansell
- Telephone number: 07805 146195

Our Breakfast Club has got off to a great start, with children enjoying their earlier start to the day, and everything is running smoothly. Please could children attending be brought to the 326 door in the mornings? A few children have been dropped off in the playground, and we have needed to help them find their way in.

326 numbers are now exceeding pre-pandemic numbers, which means we are not always able to accept casual bookings, although we will always help out in an emergency. If a booking is cancelled – e.g. your work pattern has changed, and you no longer need care on a particular day, we are able to waive the fee, provided we are informed two weeks in advance.

If your child attends an after school club, and then comes to 326 after the club has finished, the whole session needs to be paid for – i.e. a session cannot be booked to start from 4.20 p.m. This is to ensure we have the right levels of staffing in place for the whole session, and if the club is cancelled for any reason, your child will be still be able to come to 326 from 3.20 p.m.

We run both clubs as a service, which is why we have been able to keep the costs low, but need to ensure that we cover our staffing and food costs.

Painting shirts: If you have any old shirts or t-shirts you could donate as painting shirts, 326 would love to have them.



Extra-Curricular School Clubs

We have had a few queries regarding how after school clubs are organised, so I am pleased to share the following information with you.

- All clubs, apart from Short Tennis, are run by teachers on a voluntary basis, so there is no charge to parents and carers. We are very fortunate to have so many staff willing to run clubs.
- All resources used are provided for the children so there are no additional costs involved.
- Sports Clubs are generally for KS2 children, so that the children can participate in activities and leagues run through Stevenage Sporting Futures and North Herts Rural Sports. Teams are usually selected from children attending these clubs; the children train together and learn tactics and strategies for use in games.
- Other clubs are aimed at the ages and interests of the children taking part, or to work towards a particular event, such as the Dance Festival.
- Clubs are not usually on offer for children in Reception, as the majority of children are very tired at the end of the school day, and want to play at break and lunchtimes.
- We aim to provide a variety of opportunities, so as children progress through school, they are able to follow different interest, and most children will be able to find at least one club which interests them.
- Some clubs have limits on numbers, due to resources needed, space required and staffing ratios. Others are able to accommodate everyone who would like to attend.
- Clubs change throughout the year. Details are published at the start of each term in the School Newsletter.

- Children choose the clubs they wish to join, and are expected to attend every week. They are able to leave the club, if they find they do not enjoy it, but may have to wait to join again, if they change their mind!

If you have any other queries regarding clubs – please do not hesitate to contact either the School Office, or me.



Uniform colour reminder

The school uniform colour for skirts and pinafores is navy blue. We have a number available, free of cost, in different sizes available from the school office, which we would be delighted to give away, as part of our Eco Team Re-cycling project.



E-Safety

A huge thank you to Codicote Motors, who have kindly sponsored a class set of books for the school – ‘Caught in the Web’, which teach children about how to stay safe online.



PTFA

Thank you to everyone who came along to our recent PTFA AGM. With the departure of the Year 6 parents from last year, we really needed new members, so it was great to see everyone there. We have been able to plan a number of events and have lots of ideas for additional ones we can add to the calendar. All of the money raised is used to buy ‘extras’ for the children, such as climbing frames and the mini bus, and to pay towards whole school activities – for example, paying for the coaches to the pantomime, and the Sculpture Park.

Any offers of help with these events would be greatly appreciated! These are the current dates for your diary:

Date	Event	Details	Help needed
10.11.23	Children’s Film Night	Three age appropriate films to choose from for children who attend the school with a refreshment break.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting up the classrooms • Setting out refreshments • Serving refreshments • Tidying up
23.11.23	Christmas Shopping Evening	Stalls with a range of gifts on sale for purchase for Christmas presents. Opportunity to meet Father Christmas Refreshments available.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting out the tables. • Staffing the PTFA stall • Serving refreshments • Tidying up
19.12.23	School Disco	Disco for children who attend the school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selling refreshments and glow sticks • Supervising the children in the hall • Tidying up
19.1.24	Big Breakfast	Bacon rolls, croissants and hot drinks on sale before school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting up • Cooking and serving food • Making drinks • Collecting money • Tidying up

Date	Event	Details	Help needed
February onwards	School Raffle	A raffle is held each year, with the winning tickets drawn at the Summer Do.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tickets printed • Prizes – contacting/ visiting local shops and businesses to seek donations
2.3.24	Bingo/Games Night	Family fun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting the hall up • Cooking and serving refreshments • Running the bar • Tidying up
8.3.24	Mothering Sunday Shopping	Opportunity for children to buy a gift for Mothering Sunday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wrapping gifts & adding labels
27.3.24	School Disco	Disco for children who attend the school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selling refreshments and glow sticks • Supervising the children in the hall. • Tidying up
6.6.24	Big Breakfast and sponsored walk	Bacon rolls, croissants and hot drinks on sale before school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting up • Cooking and serving food • Making drinks • Collecting money • Tidying up
29.6.24	Summer Do!	A family barbecue with live music and games for children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting up • Cooking the barbecue food • Running the bar (in shifts) • Tidying up.
20.7.24	Village Day	The PTFA have a 'jars' stall.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing filled jars • Selling jars • Tidying up



Allergies, Asthma, Medical Conditions and Epi-pens

Thank you to everyone who has returned their forms – if you haven't yet, and your child has a medical need we are not already aware of, please could you return the form below.

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

Yours sincerely,

Liz Pollard
HEADTEACHER



Community News



Dance for Duchenne – 30th September: A FUNdraising danceathon event is taking place at the John Clements Sports & Social Club from 9am. With a series of dance sessions including Irish Dancing, Zumba and Wheelchair Dancing (for wheelchair and non-wheelchair users), you can take part in one, two or all of the sessions throughout the day. Further details have been sent out with this newsletter.

Allergies, Asthma, Medical Conditions and Epi-pens

Child's Name:

My child has:

An epi-pen	Asthma	Inhaler
Medical condition	Allergy	Other

(Please tick and provide details as appropriate)

I give permission for their photograph and allergy details to be included in a poster displayed in relevant locations around the school – e.g. classrooms and dining room

Signed:

Date: