

Newsletter



Newsletter 2

23rd September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

The term has started really well, and everyone seems happy and settled in their new classes. We are enjoying getting to know the Nursery children, and as always, it is lovely to see little siblings starting at Codicote, as well as the children who are new to us. We have been fortunate with the weather so far, and we have even been able to go outside to play every day. The Year 6 children have all been trained in Office Duties and have impressed us with their professional attitude; we appreciate your patience whilst they learn the ropes!



Harvest Festival

We look forward to meeting you at St. Giles, on Friday at 9 a.m. Nursery and Reception children will be holding a Harvest Celebration in school, and can be dropped at school between 8.50 and 9.30 a.m.

To reduce the amount the children need to bring with them to Harvest Festival, they will **not** need to bring a school bag – any spellings, reading diaries homework etc. will be checked next week. We will also provide water at school, using re-usable cups if they prefer not to carry their water bottle.

This year, there are two options, if you would like to make a donation at Harvest. We are collecting money for the Bishop's Appeal for Mozambique, to support the people there who are living alongside war, terrorism, lack of food and natural disasters. We are also collecting food for the Codicote Foodbank – items in particular demand are pasta, rice, pasta sauce and tinned goods, but any donations are gratefully received.

If you are, or someone you know is, in need of support, whether it is regarding food, clothing or shoes, please do not hesitate to contact me; it will be in the strictest of confidences and I will be able to put you in touch with someone who can help.



Class Assemblies

Date	Class	Date	Class
3.10.22* <i>Monday</i>	Year 2	3.11.22	Year 4C
13.10.22	Year 5	10.11.22	Year 3
		17.11.22	Year 1
		24.11.22	Year 4B

Class Assemblies start at 9.05 a.m. You are most welcome to join us, where the children share some of the things they have been doing in class, with the rest of the school. These may change, subject to school events, so it is always advisable to check with your child, their teacher, or the school office the day before.

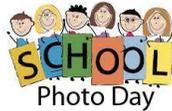
We appreciate your support in ensuring a calm start to our assemblies; we expect the children to enter and sit in silence, and request that everyone does so, as soon as the first child comes into the hall.



School Uniform

The children all look very smart in their uniforms. We have a wide selection of good condition donated school uniform items available to you at no cost, as part of our commitment to re-cycling. If you need any items, you are welcome to drop into school to see if we have anything suitable. Outdoor clothing such as coats can be of any suitable design, but indoor clothes, including sweatshirts and fleeces need to comply with school uniform expectations.

All children should be wearing black school shoes with their uniform; trainers may only be worn at break times and for outdoor PE lessons. As introduced by the School Council some years ago, on Fridays, children may wear jazzy tights or socks for fun.



School Photos

Individual and family photographs will be taken on Thursday 29th September. If you would like younger siblings who don't yet attend the school to be in family groups, please could you let the School Office know, so that they can arrange this for the start of the morning? Thank you.



Secondary School Visits

The Online application system for Secondary places for September 2022 has now opened. Secondary Schools will be holding their open evenings over the next few weeks. Parents of Year 6 children will need to make their applications for Secondary places by 31st October. Information has been sent home regarding the process involved. The open dates for some local schools are as follows:

School	Date	Time
Hitchin Boys School	Open Morning 23 rd September 2022	9.15 – 11.30 am
Hitchin Girls School	Open mornings: 27 th and Thurs 29 th September, Wed 5 th October 2022	a.m.
Monks Walk School	Thursday 6 th October	5.00 - 8.00 pm
The Priory	Open mornings: 11 th – 21 st October 2022	a.m.

Details about all schools in Herts is available at:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/school-admissions/secondary-and-upper-schools/secondary-and-upper-school-places.aspx>

As ever, if you would like any support with making your application, please do not hesitate to contact me.



PTFA

Thank you to our small, but very hard working, band of PTFA volunteers, who raise a fantastic amount of money to benefit the children in the school with your support. Our PTFA have paid for the coaches for the pantomime, supporting every child, and are fundraising for an accessible trim trail for the field, ready for when

the building work is completed. The PTFA have worked out that if each parent helped with just one event at the time their child was at school, we would have plenty of people to run everything planned.

We are very grateful to our chair, Charlie Unwin, who has worked really hard leading the PTFA, and delighted he has agreed to stay on in this role. If you are interested in joining the committee, we would love to hear from you. Our next meeting takes place on Monday 14th November, at 7pm in the staffroom. If you would like to help at any future events, we would welcome your help.

The dates planned so far are:

Date	Event	Details	Help needed
11.11.22	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
24.11.22	Christmas Shopping Evening	Stalls with a range of gifts on sale for purchase for Christmas presents. Opportunity to meet Father Christmas Refreshments available including mulled wine.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting out the tables • Staffing the PTFA stall • Serving refreshments • Tidying up
20.12.22	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
20.1.23	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
17.3.23	Mothering Sunday Shopping	Children can buy a gift for their parent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting up • Wrapping gifts • Tidying away
30.3.23	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
12.5.23	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
8.6.23	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
24.6.23	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
15.7.23	Village Day	The PTFA run a 'jars' stall.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transporting tables and chairs



Choir - Concert at St. Giles

The Choir children from Years 4 to 6 have been invited to sing at the Autumn Concert on Saturday 15th October at 7.30pm. We would like as many children as possible to attend. Letters with further details will be sent out next week. Tickets are already on sale.



School Expansion Update

The building work is progressing well outside – we are still on track to complete the new block in time for the summer, and next week promises to be very exciting, with the partition walls arriving! Progress has been somewhat slower in the main building – I am still camping out at the back of the staffroom and there is still some outstanding work to be completed in the hall and toilets.

The new field is now being fenced – we have made the contractors aware that the tiny gate installed is not what is on the plan and it will be changed for a double one! There were access issues, which have delayed the field being levelled and seeded, but hopefully they will be resolved soon, so that we can get the field ready for use by the children as soon as possible.

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

Yours sincerely,

Liz Pollard
HEADTEACHER



COMMUNITY NEWS



Codicote Apple Juice is returning with proceeds going to Defending William Against Duchenne. The Farm Butchery will be collecting apples and pears for juicing from 24th September 2022. Any type or variety of apples and pears welcome; fruit doesn't need to be perfect but it must not be rotten or damaged by animals. For more information, please speak to the team at The Farm Butchery on the High Street.