Newsletter

Newsletter 3

3rd October 2025

Assembly themes: Next week – Working Together
Following week – We are all Special

Dear Parents and Carers,

The term is continuing to go really well, and it is a pleasure to see the children's work appearing round the school. I have also enjoyed being able to give out several gold headteacher awards for beautiful work and behaviour. This week, we enjoyed a fantastic poetry assembly, with all the children reciting their poems, word perfectly!

Next week, I will be at the Hertfordshire Headteachers' Conference, on Thursday and Friday; Mr Browne, Miss Grainger and Mrs Martin will be pleased to help you with any queries whilst I am away.

Harvest

Thank you very much for your very generous donations for the Harvest Appeal; altogether, over £487 was raised – it will make a significant difference to the educational opportunities for the children in Zambia and Uganda. The children's envelopes were also amazing! I will be sharing some of the lovely drawings in the next Parish Magazine article. Our Harvest Service, led by the children and Christie, was a pleasure to be part of. The focus was on thankfulness and celebrating all we have in our lives, and we enjoyed poetry, drama, hymns, songs and times for reflection. St Giles looked beautiful, with the wonderful flower displays and as always; we were made very welcome there. We are always sad we cannot share these occasions with you – perhaps in the future, we will be able to live stream them!

Cross Country Running

Our Cross Country Runners were absolutely outstanding at the recent Cross Country Running meet, achieving the best results Mrs Mason and I can remember! Our Year 5 Boys team finished with gold medals, with the Year 5 Girls team receiving silver medals – they were only two points away from winning gold and both teams included some Year 4 runners!

In Year 5, our top finishers were: Leo 1st, Jacob (Year 4) 2nd, Frankie 4th and Oliver 5th, with Elisa (Year 4) 2nd, Libby 3rd and Selin (Year 4) 4th. In Year 6, Enzo came 4th with Ru in 7th place, Phoebe was 3rd and Lily was 11th! Our other runners were: Erin, Scarlett, Miri, Henry, James, Albert, Will E, Jude, Finlay, Amber and Arya. All the children ran really well, challenging their personal bests and supporting and encouraging each other. We were so impressed! Thank you to Mrs Mason for training the team and taking them to this event.

Golf

We also had a fantastic time at the *Swing Into Golf Festival*! Accompanied by our very own golf 'pro' Mr Martin, and Mrs Broad, the team enjoyed a great morning developing their golf skills. This was not an event where children were placed, but we were delighted to win a determination award for the attitude shown by the children. Well done to Coby, Evie, Harry, Imogen, Jasmine, Noah, Oliver, Ruby, Tara & Will – we are immensely proud of you!

Football

Well done too, to our Girls' Football Team who took part in the Stevenage Schools Football Tournament. They made it through to the semi-finals and played with great skill and enthusiasm. Congratulations to Amber C, Arya, Betty-Leigh, Julia, Lily, Miri, Myka, Phoebe and Sofia. Thank you to Mr Browne – Team Coach and Mrs Eames for taking the children to this event.

Travel to School

For several years there has been a series of protocols regarding children walking to school independently, but these have only been communicated via the newsletters. I thought it would be helpful to summarise these in a policy and have attached this to the newsletter. I will also add it to the Policies Section on the School Website for future reference. If there is anything which is unclear, please do not hesitate to contact either the school office or me. I hope you find it useful.

Parent Teacher Consultations

Information will be coming out soon, regarding the forthcoming Parent Teacher Consultations. These can be booked online and will be taking place on Wednesday 22nd October (evening) and Thursday 23rd October (before school and after school). They provide an excellent opportunity for you and your child's teacher to share their achievements, ways in which they can be further helped and to discuss any queries or concerns you may have. We are, however, happy to meet with you at any other time, so please do not feel you have to wait, should you have any concerns.

If they come with you, children are expected to wait quietly with you, and then outside the classroom during your appointment; they may wish to bring along a book or quiet toy; it will not be possible for them to play in the hall as parents will be waiting there, looking at their children's books, and there is no one available to supervise them.

I will be available both evenings; if you would like to make a specific appointment to speak to me, you are most welcome to via the school office, alternatively I will be on the door in the office, if you want to catch me then.

Bikes, trikes and scooters!

Firstly, a reminder that bikes, trikes and scooters need to be wheeled, and not ridden, on school premises, to keep everyone safe. Please also be aware of others, when these are used on the footpaths around school so that potential accidents are avoided.

Secondly, 326 would love any donations of unwanted bikes or scooters in working order – please let the school office, or Emma McKenzie know, if you are able to help.

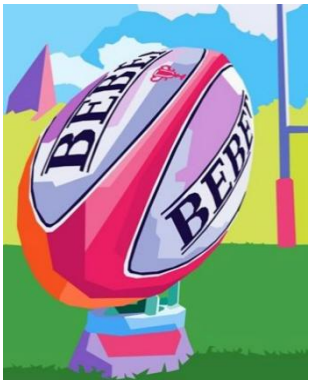
Please remember that I am always happy to discuss any issues with you. Thank you for reading this newsletter.

Yours sincerely,

Liz Pollard
HEADTEACHER

Community News

There is always a warm welcome, delicious pastries and good coffee at Cafe Church on the first Sunday of the month. The chat will pause at around 10:30am to focus on the theme of the month - TRUE RICHES, to be explored through a variety of fun activities including music, video clip, craft, discussion, a short talk and prayers. All are welcome.



Girls' Rugby

Attached to the newsletter is a poster for a free girls' taster session with Datchworth Rugby Club. Below, is a message from the Datchworth Women and Girls Team Manager – Lynne Solomon:

Good afternoon, Parents and Carers,
England's Red Roses have won the Women's Rugby World Cup! Not only have the Red Roses remained unbeaten for 33 games but this home World Cup Competition has broken attendance records for Women's Rugby across the world. It is a very exciting time to be involved in Rugby and as a result Datchworth Rugby Club would like to invite your daughter to a free, 'girls rugby taster session' this Sunday 5th October, please see the attached poster for more details and to register attendance. If your daughter is unsure about coming alone encourage them to bring a friend along too. If you cannot make this Sunday, please do get in contact anyway and we can arrange for you to come along to another session.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.