

**Newsletter 3** 

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another happy and successful couple of weeks in school, despite all of the rain! On Wednesday, Nursery, Reception and Year 1 enjoyed a Story Time visit from children's author, Su Murley. It was lovely to see how interested and engaged the children were. Yesterday, we enjoyed sharing a Poetry Assembly to celebrate National Poetry Day, on the theme of Counting, with every class taking part. The children gave great performances, and we were very impressed with their memories too – some of the poems had lots of words to remember! Next week, the Choir will be going to St. Albans' Cathedral to represent the school at the Diocesan Schools' Harvest Festival - I look forward to reporting back in the next newsletter.



### Crystal Maze

A group of children from Year 2 – Bradley, Esmae, Gracie, Harry, Lili, Morgan, Reggie and Zayyan - took part in a new festival, The Crystal Maze, run by Stevenage Sporting Futures. This included a range of fun team challenges and activities. The children did really well, encouraging and supporting each other. Having won nine crystals they were then awarded an extra one for great team work! We are very proud of them.



# Changes to Harvest Service – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October

We are aware that, with the growing numbers of children, meeting at St. Giles Church for the Harvest Service can feel quite overwhelming for children (and parents!), and also raises concerns about the safety of everyone. Therefore we have altered the arrangements this year, and will meet at school. Please come to school as usual for 8:50am registration, after which we will walk up to St. Giles Church with the children. Older children will hold the younger children's hands on the way there and back, and all classes will be accompanied by adults.

To avoid the children having to carry their contributions to the Harvest Appeal up to church, we will take a selection for the children to take up to the altar and keep the rest at school ready to transport to the Codicote Food Bank. Nursery and Reception children will have their own Harvest Celebration in school. If you have any queries regarding any of these arrangements, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office.



# **Congratulations!**

Our Cross Country Runners had a fantastic time at the Stevenage Cross Country Running event last week. They did really well, with our Year 5 and 6 Boys' teams and Year 5 Girls' team finishing in 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and the Year 6 Girls' team winning their event! Special mentions go to Chiara and Seb from Year 6 who came in 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and Leo from Year 4 in 4<sup>th</sup> place – running against children a year older! We are very proud of the children's behaviour and positive attitudes throughout. Thank you to Mrs Mason and Miss Doran, who have trained the teams.





## Travel to and from school

A number of our Year 6 children travel to school independently, in preparation for Secondary School. We do not need permission from parents and carers for this, but if there is a time when you do not wish your child to leave school on their own, please let us know.

If you would like your Year 5 child to walk to or from school without an adult, please could you email the School Office, giving your permission so that we can make their teachers aware? All other year groups are expected to be accompanied to and from school by an adult, including to and from Breakfast and After School Club.

With regard to the car park gates, the keypad at the gate is now connected to the School Office, so if you are arriving in school during the school day, you can now buzz and speak to the Office Staff. Parents are able to park in the car park if they are dropping off, or collecting children from Breakfast and 326 clubs. The rest of the time, it is for staff use only, and for anyone with mobility issues (temporary or permanent).

As ever, please contact us with any queries.



# 50 things to do at Codicote School before you are 11 <sup>3</sup>⁄<sub>4</sub>

With all of the demands of modern day life and the National Curriculum, we are keen to ensure that the key elements of being a child, having fun and experiencing success are at the forefront of what we do at Codicote School for all children. To support this, the School Council have drawn up a list of 50 things to do at Codicote School before you are 11 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>. I have attached this to the newsletter.

The table will be stuck into the Red Books, which go through school with the children, so that they can tick the activities off over time. As well as being a great record for the children, it will also enable staff to spot any opportunities missed for groups and individuals, to make sure we can be proactive in providing these.

Thank you to the School Council and their classes, for coming up with so many wonderful, unmissable ideas!



#### **Uniform & Coats**

Thank you for the fantastic support with re-cycling uniform – through donating and also re-using preloved uniform. We have a small number of children wearing the wrong colours/items – skirts and pinafores should be navy, and school trousers should be worn – leggings and skinny trousers or jeans are not allowed. The School Office is very happy to replace/provide any items needed, which are free of charge. We will also have school uniform out at Parent Teacher Consultations, for people to take. At the bottom of the newsletter, there is a poster advertising winter coats for families in need.



# Twenty buys Plenty – Friday 18th October

On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October, the Eco Team will be running another 'Twenty buys Plenty' sale in the school hall, with children's clothes on sale for 20p an item. All funds raised will go to Water Aid.



Following on from the information in the last newsletter regarding removal of jewellery, including earrings, for PE, I thought it would be helpful to include the PE timetable for the week, for parents who need to remove their child's earrings at home.

PE Timetable Autumn 2024					
Monday	Year 6B	Year 6D	Year 2 G	Year 2P	Year 4
Tuesday	Nursery	Year 1	Year 5	Year 3	
Wednesday	Year 3C	Year 3P	Year 6D	Year 6 B	
Thursday	Year 5	Year 4	Year 1		
Friday	Reception	Year 2P	Year 2G		



### **326 After School Clubs**

326 continues to be very popular, and is full most nights. Whilst bookings are expected to be made half a term in advance, we try our best to accommodate additional children at shorter notice. A minimum of two days' notice is needed for 'ad hoc' bookings, allowing us time to secure additional staff and ensure we have enough food ordered – more notice is even better! However, in an emergency situation, where this isn't possible, we will always make sure the children are safe and looked after.

Two weeks' notice is needed for any cancellation of sessions, to avoid charges being incurred. Bookings and cancellations can be made via 326 or the School Office.



#### **E** Scooters

We have been asked to make families aware of the laws regarding e-scooters in the UK, by Herts Constabulary. While E-scooters are legal to own in the UK, there are restrictions on where they can be used. While privately-owned E-scooters may be used on private land with landowner's permission, they are not legal for use on public roads, pavements, footpaths or cycle lanes. Privately owned E-scooters used on the road require a policy of insurance, however, only policies covering use on private land with the landowner's permission are currently available.

There is currently no legal age restriction on riding private E-scooters.

Any E-scooters will be seized from owners and Traffic Offence Reports resulting in points and a fine, will be issued to anyone not adhering to these regulations. If you have any family or friends that may own an E-scooter please make them aware of these Regulations in order to prevent them from prosecution.

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** 



**Café Church** October Cafe Church is themed around harvest and giving thanks. The cafe will be open from 10 am selling delicious fresh pastries and hot drinks. Chat around the cafe tables will pause at around 10:30 to allow a focus on the topic of the day. There will be craft activities for the children throughout the morning. All are welcome.

