

Newsletter



Newsletter 17

19th May, 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another great couple of weeks. The children have been enjoying being outside in the sunshine; skipping and hula hooping are very popular at the moment – a large delivery of skipping ropes has just arrived and we have some extra hoops on order!

Year 6 will be heading off on their residential trip to the Isle of Wight on Monday. The coach will be parked on St. Albans Road – any help you can give us by avoiding parking there will be greatly appreciated. I am sure both children and staff will have a great time and look forward to sharing their adventures when they return on Friday.



Breakfast Club

A number of parents have asked us if it would be possible for us to start a Breakfast Club. As we will have the 326 room and kitchen area available, we plan to start this from September. The cost is expected to be between £4.00 and £4.50 per session, depending on uptake; if the club looks likely to be full, we will be able to offer it at the cheaper price. It will run from 7.50 to 8.50 a.m. every morning, and take place in the current 326 room. There will be cereal, toast and fruit available.

We recognise the important role which childminders play, and do not wish to be in competition. Therefore, we welcome any feedback, and will take this into account when we are finalising number limits. We want to collectively provide enough places to meet the needs of families, but not a surplus.

If Breakfast Club would be of interest to you, please could you return the form at the foot of the newsletter, to help us to establish the demand?



E-Safety & Mobile Phones

Thank you very much to everyone who came to the recent E-Safety evening. We will be sending a link out to the presentation for anyone who was unable to come. The company leading the day, Childnet Education, were very impressed with the amount of knowledge the children have about keeping safe online and we will continue to help them to implement this in their use of technology.

One thing which came up regularly throughout the day, was the number of children who regularly go on TikTok – from age 5 upwards. Although the minimum age is set at 13, children do not have to give their age when signing up. This means that because TikTok uses algorithms to show users new content, it's easy for children to come across inappropriate or upsetting videos. The platform also has communication features that allow users to privately message each other which could put your child at risk of being contacted by someone they don't know.

There are security settings available to use – details are included here: <https://www.pocket-lint.com/tiktok-family-safety-mode-parental-controls/>

There is a great website we have come across called *Interland* where you can play games with your child which focus on teaching them to recognise challenges and behave safely, kindly and responsibly on-line.
https://beinternetawesome.withgoogle.com/en_us/interland

With regard to mobile phones, only Year 6 children are able to bring them to school, and they may not be used on school premises or during after school activities. No phones are allowed at children's PTFA events, such as Film Night or School Discos. Staff at school are always happy to contact parents and carers if a child needs a call to be made.



Dropping children off

We appreciate that there are some emergencies when children need to be dropped off at school earlier than usual, and will always try to help in these instances. When this is the case, they should be brought to the school office. Otherwise, they should enter through their usual entrance door at 8.50 a.m. If children arrive in school late, they need to come to the school office so that we can ensure they are registered and booked in for a school meal.



School Expansion

Although we had another delay with our building due to problems with a subcontractor, our builders have been working hard to make up time and get everything finished. The landscaping outside is progressing really well and we are all looking forward to the extra play space we will have when it is finished. I will be visiting the site next week and will be able to share more pictures and information then.



Children's sporting success

Huge congratulations to our senior football team, who finished as runners up in the Stevenage Cup Match this week. The team have had a very successful season and can be proud of their skills and team work.

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



The Codicote rewilding project is organising a Planting Day & Picnic at John Clements Sports & Social Club on Saturday May 20th 2023. From 10am to 12pm Planting will take place – adults only – and between 12pm to 3pm there will be a picnic and family and kids activities. Further details have been sent out with this newsletter.



Child/ren's name(s):

Class(es):

I would be interested in my child/ren attending breakfast club on the following days:

(Please circle/highlight)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
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Signed:

Name:

Please return to the school office. Thank you.