

Telscombe Cliffs Community Primary School and Nursery



Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Term 1 has passed by in a flash and it's already Half Term! Our children have worked hard throughout the term and we continue to be very proud of them.

Attendance

We will be monitoring attendance robustly throughout the year. Our overall attendance last year was disappointing and we need to improve. You will have received a letter with our expectations about attendance. Our attendance target is 96% and current percentages for Year groups are: YrR 96.1% Yr1 95.6%, Yr2 95.4%, Yr3 94.8%, Yr4 96.4%, Yr5 94.4% and Yr6 95.8%

SchoolPing

School Ping is now our main method of communication. From September 2019, we have been a **cashless** school; visits, workshops, Early Birds, Owls, swimming money, donations, and payments for residential trips must all be paid using Ping. Nursery payments should continue to be made via bank transfer. Payments for school dinners must be made directly to Caterlink.

Electronic Signing In/Out System

We now have an electronic signing in system. If children arrive late to school they need to be signed in by their parent/carer; children will need to be accompanied onto the school site. Children who are leaving early will need to be signed out by a parent. Our new system will be GDPR compliant. It will make the checking in and out of visitors quick and easy with a self-service touch screen. Returning visitors will be remembered, and the system will enable us to quickly account for everyone in the event of an emergency.

Curriculum Newsletters

Our teachers have been working hard on curriculum newsletters in order to give both parents and children an overview of our exciting termly learning, including key vocabulary. Please check the 'Curriculum' section of our website for further details.

School Uniform and School Shoes

As you know, we are working hard to improve all aspects of the school and we are aiming for high expectations in everything we do. One way that you can support us with this is to send your child in the correct uniform and footwear. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents who make sure their children are smart for school, wearing the correct uniform. For parents who are unsure we would like to clarify that:

- Footwear should be black only. If trainers are worn they must be all black, with no obvious branding and no white or coloured trims.
- Distinctive hairstyles including shaved designs or coloured hair are not suitable for school.
- Ties are part of the KS2 winter uniform but these are optional.

Now that the weather is becoming colder-and wetter, please ensure that your child has a suitable coat in school. We want our children to be able to play outside whenever possible, but we want them to be warm and dry.

Information about our uniform can be found in the School Prospectus, which can be found on the website. The school is going to stock a supply of uniform and plimsolls. Children who are not wearing the correct uniform will be asked to wear these.

Please also bear in mind that time spent challenging uniform distracts us from our core purpose which is teaching and learning.

Help Us Keep In Touch With You

Please ensure that the School Office has your up-to-date contact details. We will need these if we ever need to contact you about your child feeling unwell during the school day. East Sussex County Council's Safeguarding Best Practice requires schools to have at least **two** contact details for each family; please make sure that we have all the information that we need.

SEND Coffee Morning



Parents are warmly invited into school on Tuesday 12th November at 9am for a cup of coffee and a chat. It will be a chance for parents of children with special or additional needs to meet other parents, meet the staff that work with children in school and eat cake. We look forward to seeing you there. Please let the office know if you intend to come so that we know how much cake to bake!

Forest School Reminders



A reminder that children need to be wearing appropriate clothing for Forest School. We are insisting on children bringing a coat, warm clothes to change into and appropriate footwear. Children who are not appropriately dressed for Forest School will not be able to take part in the session. Please look at the Forest School section on our website for Term 2 information.

Year 5 Maths Challenge

On Thursday 26th September, six of our Year 5 children (Josh T, Lily-Mae P, Leyton E, Skye H, Harrison B and Maya B) took part in an inter school maths competition held at St. Andrew's Prep, Eastbourne. The challenge saw children working in pairs to tackle six different mathematical tasks, gaining points as they went along. The tasks included solving puzzles using calculators, pentominoes, playing cards, tangrams, dominoes. This was a fantastic experience for the children. Thank you to the parents/carers who came along to support them.



Goodbye Miss Fender

We are sad to announce that Miss Fender's last day at Telscombe Cliffs was Friday 25th October. She has been with us for four years and has worked especially closely with the SEND team. We wish her well in her future career and thank her for being such an asset to the school.

Car Parking around our School

The school appreciates parents parking politely and safely in Central Avenue and other areas adjacent to its premises. We understand that space is at a premium but it is extremely important that the safety of our pupils, parents and neighbours comes first. We have received several communications this term from local residents who are very concerned about the parking behaviour of some of our parents. Rule 243 of the Highway Code clearly states, **DO NOT stop or park:** near a school entrance; anywhere you would prevent access for Emergency Services; where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair users and powered mobility vehicles; in front of an entrance to a property. Essentially, a car cannot cause an obstruction to the road. Thank you for adhering to this. We have also received reports about parents using mobile phones whilst driving. **Access to the car park on the school site is for members of staff only; there is no parking in the school's car park for parents or visitors.**

Individual Healthcare Plans

If your child has a medical condition of which the school needs to be aware an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) will need to be completed for them. These need to be updated at least annually. Medical conditions include asthma, epilepsy, diabetes or broken bones, for example. We appreciate that every child's needs are individual so it is important that appropriate planning is in place for each of our pupils. Please contact the School Office for information regarding an IHP for your child.

School Photographs

The School Photographer is in school on the first day back after October Half Term (Monday 4th November). Sibling photos will be taken before the start of school (7.30am – 8.15am) and parents must stay with their children. This should allow enough time for any children having sibling photos taken to arrive for registration on time. Any children who do not attend nursery on Monday have the option of bringing their children in between 8:30am and 9:00am and they must stay with their children and go straight to the main office, not via nursery. **If your child's consent form hasn't been completed via SchoolPing then your child will NOT have their photo taken.**

Book Fair

We are excited to once again announce that our annual book fair will take place on Monday 11th, Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th November at 3:15-4:00pm in the library. This is always a popular event and gives the children the chance to purchase a variety of both fiction and non-fiction books.

Governing Body Welcome

Hi all, I am privileged to be a Parent Governor for our school and would like to introduce myself – my name is Gina Quayle and I have two children; Michael in Year 2 and Cameron who is 2.

Our governing body has been working very hard since the new academic year has started, but we appreciate most of the activities we complete are behind the scenes. So, we'd like to use this newsletter as a chance to explain a little bit about what we have been doing and to celebrate some of the amazing achievements that the school has made in moving forward since Mrs Allison officially became our Headteacher!

The governors believe that the education of your child is based on partnership between home and school life and are keen to enhance parent/carer(s) involvement in the education of their child. We are continuously looking at ways to improve parental involvement and you can get involved by, for example:

- Attend school assemblies, parent evenings and other events organised by the school;
 - Spend 15-30 minutes each day helping your child with their homework/reading and check their reading diary every evening;
 - Ask about any parent courses which may help you assist your child with their homework;
 - Ask to help in the classroom as a parent volunteer helper;
 - Keep in regular contact with your child's class teacher;
- there are lots of opportunities for you to meet them throughout the year.

Over the next few months you'll see lots of new initiatives that will all focus on parents/carers and school staff working together to support and improve the learning, development, and health of children. Exciting times ahead!

Anti-Bullying Week

This year, the goal is to let children, parents and carers know that it takes a collective responsibility to stop bullying. We are excited for this campaign as we want to create empowering, positive messages addressing the fact that when it comes to bullying **CHANGE STARTS WITH US!**

Whether it is verbal, physical, online or in-person, bullying has a significant impact on a child's life well in to adulthood. By making small, simple changes, we can break this cycle and create a safe environment for everyone. Because together, we can challenge bullying. Change starts with a conversation. It starts with checking in. It starts with work together.

Online Safety and Anti-Bullying Workshops

Once again, we are pleased to announce that, as part of 'Anti-Bullying Week', John Khan will be running online safety and anti-bullying workshops. This will take place on Friday 15th November and will include a parent workshop in our main hall – time to be confirmed. John is an experienced practitioner who supports many schools in the area. We received positive feedback last year from children, staff and parents.

Christmas Production Dates

We are finalising dates for this and will let you know early next term. Year 2 will once again be performing their production in Term 6.

Dates for your diary!

Please note these dates are not exhaustive and can be subject to change.

October 2019	
Thursday 24 th	Term 1 ends for children
Friday 25 th	INSET Day
Thursday 31 st	Deadlines for secondary school applications
November 2019	
Monday 4 th	Term 2 begins School Photographs
Monday 11 th to Wednesday 15 th	Anti-Bullying Week Change Starts with Us
Monday 11 th to Wednesday 13 th	Book Fair 3:15-4:00pm
Tuesday 12 th	Year 1 Jaws N Claws Workshop
Wednesday 13 th	New to Reception Event 9:30am and 2:30am
Friday 15 th	John Khan Anti-Bully and Online Safety Workshops Children In Need
Wednesday 20 th	Conifer Class Assembly 2:30pm
Wednesday 27 th	Elder Class Assembly 2:30pm
December 2019	
Wednesday 4 th	Ivy Class Assembly 2:30pm
Wednesday 11 th	Oak Class Assembly 2:30pm
Thursday 19 th	Term 2 ends for children
Friday 20 th	INSET Day
January 2020	
Monday 6 th	Term 3 begins

Mrs. C. Allison, Headteacher