

St Anne's Gazette

Free Prae Road, Chertsey, Surrey KT16 8ET

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Issue No 8

8th March 2018

Dear Parents,

Thank goodness the snow has gone - I didn't like making the decision to close at all but for the safety of everyone it was for the best. Back to normal now though and a lot is going on...

Don't forget this Friday (9th) is Pyjama Day for Foundation and KS1, and Book Muffin for the children in KS2. Please send in £1 per child, or a book to donate to our Reading Scheme. Reading is so important for children, so the more we promote the enjoyment of reading the better.

On the subject of Reading, please could everyone have a good look at home for school reading books. We seem to run very low from time to time as the children take these to practice at home, and understandably they forget to return them sometimes. No-one will be in trouble, but for those who prefer we shall also leave a box outside the office window for their collection.

R.E. SURVEY

At the beginning of this week, an email was sent out with a R.E. survey attached which we have asked parents to complete to enable us to keep up to date with your thoughts and opinions concerning Religious Education in school. Another copy is attached herewith.

THIS TERM ENDS

ON THURSDAY, 29th MARCH

12.20 P.M. FOR KS1 - 12.30 P.M. FOR KS2

SUMMER TERM COMMENCES ON MONDAY, 16TH APRIL

AT 9 A.M.

SCHOOL CLOSURE DATES

Wednesday, 14th March—(In-Service Day)

Thursday, 3rd May—(Local Elections Polling Day)

Friday, 22nd June—(In-Service Day)

CELEBRATE MY WORK

A point was raised in our last Parent Representative meeting that there aren't many opportunities for parents to have a look at their child's work on a more regular basis. Therefore we have decided to introduce an open session, for the last 30-40 minutes of a day in the last week of term, for you to get more of a feel for what the class has been learning during that term, and for your child to share a couple of pieces of work with you that he/she is particularly proud of.

The first of these sessions will be from 2.30pm to the end of the school day on **Wednesday, 28th March**. As it is something we are trialling, we will learn along the way whether we will have to consider any adjustments in the future. Reception have done it for a few years and it has been really successful, so hopefully it will be equally as popular throughout the rest of the school.

LENT

As mentioned in Mrs Murphy's recent letter (attached), during Lent this year we are asking the children to raise money for the 'Missio' Charity, by way of doing small things to help others. A Lenten calendar was sent home with suggestions and ideas of different ways they could offer their help. Please do try to support your child as it is important for the children to seek ways to help others in our world who are less fortunate than themselves. Your child should have brought a collection box home after the half-term break which we would be grateful for the return of during the last week of term (w/c 26th March). If at all possible, could you count the amount in the box and note it on the outside. Many thanks in advance, on behalf of the Missio Charity, for the monies collected.

WORLD BOOK WEEK

World Book 'week' got off to a great start on Monday, 26th February when the children in Foundation and Key Stage 1 came to school dressed as their favourite book character. Then, as you are aware, the rest of the week went a bit pear-shaped because of the 'Snow Days'!!

So, to round the 'week' off, on Friday (9th March) the children in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 will have their Pyjama Day, to promote bedtime reading. Parents will be welcomed into to foundation stage and key stage one to read with the children from 2.30pm. The KS2 children will be coming to school on Friday in mufti – dressed as their favourite book character if they wish. Please could we ask for a donation of a book or £1 to put towards the purchase of books for school. Thank you.

MOTHER'S DAY

This special day is fast approaching (this Sunday, 11th March) and the PFA is once again kindly organising some Mother's Day Gift stalls for the children to buy a gift for their Mum. We sent out an email yesterday detailing which classes are going on which day this week, the first of which was today. The remainder of the children will have their opportunity tomorrow (Friday, 9th), so please ensure that monies sent in (suggested maximums of £3 for KS1 and £5 for KS2).

On Mothering Sunday (11th March), as in previous years, the children in Year 3 will be leading Mass in St Anne's Church, at 10.30a.m. I look forward to seeing you at this special Mass.

Parking

Please may I once again remind parents to be courteous to residents and each other when you are parking outside the school. Please make a note of the type, colour and registration number of the car and contact the police if you see any dangerous, illegal or inconsiderate parking. Photo evidence would also be useful.

May I also respectfully remind you, particularly at busy times, rather than turning right into the school, to continue up to the mini roundabout, **carefully and slowly turn full circle**, and then turn **left** into school which would enable the traffic to flow more freely and reduce congestion.

And a final reminder that in the mornings, parents are ONLY permitted to DROP THEIR CHILDREN OFF then drive straight out again

ONLY STAFF CARS ARE PERMITTED IN THE SCHOOL GROUND\$ UNTIL AFTER 3.45P.M.

Tin a Week

I would like to thank those of you who regularly send in a tin for the Tin a Week project. Please could I ask everyone to continue to do so - a tin a week really does make a huge difference to those less fortunate than ourselves in our local community.

MORNING DROP-OFF

In the interests of your children's safety, please can you all make a note of the following:

- ***Foundation and KS1 children must be supervised by an adult (i.e. over 18) until the teacher takes them into class.***
- ***KS2 children must not be left in the playground until after 8.45 a.m. at which time some staff members will be outside.***
- ***Please explain to your children that this is not a playtime—calm behaviour is expected while waiting for the start of the school day.***

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

Since our last newsletter the focus of staff meetings have been: How to deliver RSE (Relationship, Sex Education), and reviewing our teaching and learning project 'getting active'. Both were really helpful but especially reviewing the project. Teachers and LSAs had the opportunity to observe each other with a focus on less direct teaching and more active learning from the children. I went to see Reception and Year 1—it was lovely that the children were encouraged to be independent, they had lots of resources to work with and the teachers were picking up on learning points from discussion—great!

Next Wednesday, we have a joint In-Service day with the other Xavier Catholic Education Trust (XCET) primary schools. The focus will be writing and, in particular, supporting children to be 'greater depth' writers.

Finally, although last week was a short week we had two visitors—the first of whom is an Independent Consultant as well as an Ofsted inspector who we like to come in periodically to observe us informally. She was very positive about the leadership of the school, the teaching, the behaviour and the safety. Naturally, we have areas to continue to work on which include: monitoring focus children: those on the cusp who could easily fall behind, and focusing on having more children reach greater depth in maths and writing.

The second visitor was the Teaching and Learning lead from XCET who did a learning walk to see how we had progressed since our teaching and learning audit, last year. Again, she was impressed with how much we had done since the audit, i.e. coaching of staff, training with learning support staff and the project. She was positive about the consistencies across the school, the displays and learning environments. Next steps are to look at writing targets and ensure we do more learning walks, which enable us to identify and celebrate positive learning environments for children.

All in all two very positive visits.

FOOTBALL, SCOOTERS AND BICYCLES

*Just a gentle reminder that the children **ARE NOT ALLOWED** to play football **BETWEEN 8.45-9.00 A.M. AND 3.05-3.45 P.M.** each day as there are so many parents with young children around.*

*Also, **scooters and bicycles must NOT be ridden** in the school grounds.*

Please do let me know should you see this happening.

Many thanks for your continued co-operation.

Yours sincerely



Leanne Harris
Headteacher