

Friday Mailbag 28 September 2018

News

Yrs 3 to 6 Dinner Money Debt

We are only three weeks into the new school year and 295 school dinners have already been taken without being paid for - the school is carrying £609 of parents' debt.

This is just not sustainable; we have to pay Chartwells for the meals, whether we've received the money or not. It's costing us time as well as money. Just today, Jill has spent an hour and a half phoning parents to chase debts.

We have always made it clear that school meal accounts must be kept in credit and it is simple to check your balance on Gateway.

From now on, we will not order your child a school meal if there is no money in their account by morning registration. You will get a phone call from the office asking you to bring in a packed lunch before 11.45am.

Sorry if this seems draconian but we have exhausted all other approaches without success.

Gateway App - Please can we ask you to use the web version of Gateway instead the app? The app is proving unreliable and we suggest you uninstall it from your phone.

Dinner Money price change - From 5th November (the first day of Term 2) Chartwells are increasing the price of a school meal by 5p to £2.10.

Black History Month at Hillcrest will be launched on Monday morning with an assembly by Beresford Lee (who will also be working with us on projects in the Spring and Summer terms). **Yr 6 parents** are invited to join us in school at 2.15 to see the children's workshop presentations.

The 'Flu vaccination forms are being collected on Monday so make sure your form is back by 9am if you want your child to have the vaccine in school. (If you miss the deadline you can arrange it with your doctor or pharmacist instead).

A good cause - Jet, in Yr 4, is planning to swim 73 lengths of Jubilee pool, a whole mile, next week to raise money for [CHIVA](#), a registered charity working across the UK and Ireland to improve care for HIV positive children and their families. Jet's godfather is a doctor who specialised in paediatric infectious disease and is on the board of trustees for this charity. They do amazing work and are a cause Jet and her family have chosen to support. Look out for the link to her JustGiving page in Tuesday's Mailbag.

Jet is also planning to have a stall in the playground after school on Friday October 4th selling magic wands she has made herself. She will have some sweets or biscuits to give out to anyone who would like to give a contribution towards her fundraising too!

Yr 6 Camp medical consent form - Your child should be bringing home a paper copy of this in their bag today. It's also on the website. See the link in Letters, below. It's an important form - please complete it and return it as soon as possible. Thank you.

The Friends of Hillcrest AGM will take place at the school on Thursday 4th October 7.00 - 9.00 pm. Please come along. Everybody is very welcome.

Letters

[Yr 6 Camp Medical Consent form](#)

[Football Tournament letter](#)

Community Notices

[PLAY Family arts event flyer](#)

[Redcliffe Autumn Festival flyer](#)

[ITV Scrambled flyer](#)

Look out for your next Mailbag on Tuesday.