

Colgate School Newsletter

April 2019



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after the Easter break.

Please check the dates for calendars below as we have many lovely events coming up this term, including some arranged by our new PTA—PFC 'Parents and Friends of Colgate'. Thank you to all of you who have volunteered your time and support.

Our outgoing PTA's funds of £4927 are being used to contribute towards an all weather running track for the perimeter of our school field. This will enable us to use the field throughout the year for a variety of outdoor activities. Thank you for all of your contributions which have enabled us to develop the outdoor provision for the children. Subject to planning permission, we hope for this to be installed by May half term.

You will have recently received an email regarding attendance and lateness. Please take some time to read through the documents as we have updated our paperwork and policy in light of guidance from the local authority.

Next week, we will sadly be saying goodbye to Mrs Simpson who is retiring from her post as Special Needs Coordinator at Colgate. She has been with the school for nearly 10 years and in this time has supported so many families and staff members with her caring approach. We will miss her very much but are glad to say that she will continue to lead our church services throughout the year so we will be keeping in touch with her. Miss Wilson will be taking on the role of Special Needs coordinator initially for the Summer term.

Please have a read of our current Working With Others focus in school further down the newsletter; we have shared with the children that we are focusing on positive play-times. Children will now be awarded in our Wednesday assembly if they are showing encouragement and empathy towards others or building their confidence and having a go.

Finally, the footpath improvements are due to be carried out in May half term. As the weather has improved and the path is drier, please do try the park and stride option before then as it significantly helps the congestion in the road.

Kind regards,

Mrs. Rebecca Winn

Dates for your calendars

May

2nd—Apple/Maple class trip to Wakehurst

3rd—Year 6, Horsham Music festival

9th—Willow class Harry Potter trip

13th-16th Year 6 SATs

23rd—Author visit, Ross Montgomery

27th-31st HALF TERM

June

3rd— INSET day

7th— PFC movie night

11th— New Year R parents and carers' meeting

14th—ASSHletics

14th— PFC movie night

July

1st-2nd Dalesdown residential Year 4 and 5

4th—Sports day

8th and 9th—optional parent/carer evening

11th—KS2 Production, afternoon and evening performance

19th—PFC Summer fair

22nd—Leavers assembly 2pm/ End of term

NB Class assembly dates to follow shortly

Don't forget Read and Roast!

Every Thursday we welcome parents and carers to join your child from 11/ 11.30am (to suit you) in class and then to have a roast dinner and join playtime. The meal costs £3, if you'd like to sign up for any Thursday please call Mrs Oakes.

Please note that due to supervision restrictions, parents and carers can join the playground after lunch but not the library or IT suite.



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Working With Others

At Colgate School we are a member of the Working With Others (WWO) schools partnership. Working With Others is all about teaching children the skills they need to work as part of a team. It raises attainment in learning but also helps children to be more motivated, engaged and happier at school. It isn't just about learning at school though, it's about providing children with the fundamental skills they will need to succeed when working and interacting with others throughout their lives.

Children learn by experimentation and exploration of the relationships between themselves and everything else in the world. Play is the vehicle which enables these relationships to develop into understanding. At school we harness play as an effective tool for teaching young children. During the school day, the children will have opportunities for engaging in a variety of different types of play. This term we are focusing on play and playtime for the development of our Working With Others skills. Every week, children who are seen to have been demonstrating the use of these skills at break time will have the opportunity to stand up in assembly and share their achievements, they will then get to sit on a special bench in assembly for the rest of the week and a certificate will go home to acknowledge their efforts.

Our first skill focus is **encouraging others**. One sure fire way to teach your child the patience to encourage others is through play opportunities with other children. While observing your children playing with others, take note of their ability to share and encourage others during games or playground time. If your child compliments another on how high they can climb or swing for example, or if they encourage other children to 'have a go', bring it to their attention later with lots of praise, so they recognise the positive behaviour exhibited.

