

Colgate School Newsletter

April 2017



Dear Parents,

Welcome to our new look newsletter!

We are introducing this format to share information about the school community. Each newsletter will contain updates from groups such as our school council, Year 6 Helping Hands, the school cook, our learning mentor, our Friends of Colgate (PTA) and our school governors.

It has been a really busy and productive term. It has been good to see so many of you at our class assemblies and thank you to those of you who have helped with school trips.

We are expecting a visit from Ofsted soon. In preparation for this visit, you are very welcome to upload your views of the school on their Parent view website

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=give-your-views>

We would also like to seek your views and feedback in school, shortly a paper questionnaire will be coming home for you to comment on and return to us. If you have any questions, please contact the office or see me or Mr. Clark on the gate in the mornings.

We have had several maintenance projects on recently which include new hall lighting and heating. Replacement heating in the huts and the exterior of the huts replaced. During the Easter break the hall will be redecorated and our school kitchen is being updated during the Summer.

If you want to check on any school dates or refer to previous letters that have been emailed home, please remember our school website. Photos from recent school events are updated on the home page.

<https://colgate.eschools.co.uk/website>

We look forward to seeing many of you at the Easter service next Friday at 1.30pm. Also, don't forget your Spring disco tickets!

Kind regards,

Mrs. Rebecca Winn

The Helping Hands

Dear Parents/Carers, we year 6s, previously called Buddies, are renaming ourselves to The Helping Hands. We are here for everyone, at any time whether it's a problem on the playground, or confidence issues in lessons, we are there for your child/children.

We are very approachable, to say in the least, and you can find us on the playground with orange high visibility jackets, and rainbow lanyards with our names on.

We have a "drop box" where your child can put their name and class in, where we will call them to come with us to have a private chat. To sort out their problems, we will keep all problems and issues confidential unless it gets too serious, then we might have to tell an adult in school. We will let them choose which adult, so they feel relaxed with that trusted adult.

Aiming to be great role models, on Mondays and Wednesdays we spend time with children in one to one sessions to improve their learning, confidence, and WWO skills as well as having lunch with them on Fridays. If your child has any problems with learning or with friendships on the playground, all of us are always open for a chat.

Thank you from the Year 6 Helping hands.



Thank you for using our morning drop off system each day. We are largely seeing a smooth flow of traffic at this time. The playground is open from 8.20 am and the gate is carefully supervised. Cars arriving from 8.20 are moving through the drop off well. If you arrive nearer to 8.40 am, it does become busier so please observe the one way system to avoid blockages.



Dates for your diaries

APRIL

7th: Easter Service @ 1.30pm

End of Term

(10th – 21st April: Easter Holidays)

24th: BACK TO SCHOOL

26th: Class Photos

MAY

1st: Bank Holiday

8th – 12th: Year 6 SATs Week

(29th – 2nd: HALF TERM)

JUNE

5th: INSET day

12th: Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Week

16th ASSHLETICS—KS2

30th: Sports Day Afternoon. Starting at 1pm.

Summer Fair after sports day.

JULY

5th: Yr 4, 5 & 6 Production Performances @2pm & 6pm

7th: Reserve Day Sports Day Afternoon

25th: Leavers Assembly @ 2pm

END OF TERM

INSET DAYS 2017—2018

Monday 4th September INSET

Tuesday 5th September INSET

Back to school Wednesday 6th September

Half term 23rd to 27th October

Monday 30th October INSET

End of Autumn term 20th December

Start of Spring term 2018 4th January

Half term 13th to 16th February

Monday 19th February INSET

Easter break 30th March to 13th April

Summer half term 28th May to 1st June

Monday 4th June INSET

END OF TERM Tuesday 24th July 2018

We have a number of lost property items in Reception and in the Apple/Maple class foyer. Please check through if you are missing any items as we will have to recycle some items at Easter due to lack of space. Thank you.



**A message from our
Learning Mentor Mrs.
Bicknell**

Hello,

I would like to introduce myself as the Learning Mentor in School. I have 12 years experience of working with children, in a range of schools and children centre environments. I have been at Colgate Primary School since 2005. I have worked with children of all ages, and with a wide range of additional needs.

My role is to support all our children and their families. I will be working with children, parents/carers, school staff and outside staff to provide the best solution for children who are experiencing problems to overcome any barriers to learning. I will listen to children, offering support and practical advice in order for them to achieve the best they can whilst at Colgate Primary School. Barriers to learning can be things like:

- Family difficulties
- Lack of social skills
- Friendship difficulties
- Lack of confidence and/or low self esteem
- Bereavement
- Bullying
- Medical needs
- Low concentration
- Anger/Behaviour
- Specific difficulties
- The list goes on...

I can offer one to one or small group work which will be tailored to meet the needs of the children concerned. This could be time to talk, calming sessions, more structured work or informal play – it all depends on the individual child, what we are focusing on and sometimes the day it is!

I am happy and available to meet with parents/carers to discuss any difficulties and plan a way forward, or even just for an informal chat to say hello. I am often on the playground in the mornings so you can say hello then, or if you would like a more specific appointment please ring on the school number.

I look forward to meeting you.

Mrs. Sally Bicknell

Registering for Free School Meals could raise money for our school!

Registering for a free school meal eligibility check could raise an extra grant of £1,320 per year, per child, for our school, or £935 per child for secondary schools, to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff or after school activities.

This additional money is available from the government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the state benefits listed below. It is therefore important to register for a free school meal eligibility check, even if your child is in reception, year 1 or year 2, so that your child's school receives as much funding as possible.

FAMILY INCOME AND BENEFIT DETAILS

Are you in receipt of any of the benefits listed?

- Income support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support from National Asylum Support Service (NASS) under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit only, provided your annual household income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) does not exceed £16,190. **Anyone entitled to Working Tax Credit is not entitled to free meals regardless of income**
Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for WTC)
- Universal Credit (with no element of Working Tax Credit)

If you are not eligible for benefits related free school meals, but your child is currently in Reception, year 1 or year 2, they will be automatically entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals and you need not apply. Please contact your school for details.

If you are eligible for benefits related free school meals in accordance with the above criteria and your child is also receiving Universal Infant Free School Meals please continue to register as this will enable your child's school to claim valuable 'pupil premium' funding

If your benefits change or if your child moves school during the school year you should contact fsm@westsussex.gov.uk

Please open this link to complete the form online if you believe you are eligible.

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/free-school-meals-online-application/>

Welcome to Colgate Primary School Council

As school council we make the school an even better place to be. This term the school council made a power point to show in our assembly to the school to show the school everything we have been doing this year. We invited Mrs Sanders, our school cook, and Mrs Winn, our head teacher, to a recent meeting to discuss changing some of the menu after listening to children's suggestions in recent school council meetings. We researched different meals that could be cooked as a replacement for beef stew and beef pie and presented these to Mrs Sanders. We then carried out a survey across the whole school. After evaluating the results, the menu was changed to include meatballs and beef lasagne.

As well as improving our school menu, the school council has also been busy ensuring every class has a job to make our school the best it can be. We have key stage one children taking responsibility for delivering registers and key stage two children responsible for the tidiness of the school by litter picking and tidying up classrooms that all classes use. Also every break time the school council put out boxes full of equipment. We tidy the boxes and put new equipment in there to ensure that everybody has an enjoyable play-time.

We are looking forward to carrying on our hard work in the Summer Term and listening to even more of your suggestions to make Colgate even better!

