

Friday 16th October 2020

Dear Parents,

### Harvest Celebrations

A very big 'Thank you' on behalf of the Food Cupboard at St. Mary's Church in Bletchley. What a great turn out! The volunteers were really impressed with the amount of food brought in for our harvest celebrations today. All items will go towards supporting families in need in Milton Keynes.



We have had some lovely Harvest celebrations in classes today and many of us have enjoyed watching an assembly online led by Mike Morris from the Watling Valley Ecumenical Partnership.

Our Year 1 children have enjoyed learning all about Autumn, including the colours of the season and the crops being harvested. Our Year 4 children have learnt about harvesting over time including the harvest from the sea.

### Parent Consultation Evenings

Most people have now signed up for a parent consultation next week. We recommend you log on at least 10 minutes before the consultation time to ensure all technical issues are resolved prior to joining with your child's class teacher. Guidance documents are available on the home page of our Website.

### Homework

Most children in Y1- Y6 are now accessing Google Classrooms for homework. It is really important that the extra work sent home is completed so please support your child to log on and get started when tasks are set. There is a video on our Website to support and we will shortly be uploading some guidance which should also help if any issues arise.

### Reading Books

As school finishes on Thursday next week for the half term, our younger children will bring home several reading books on Wednesday to support reading over the half term. Phonics books in FS, Y1 and Y2 will be sent out on Thursday as usual.

### PE days - next week

Please note the following changes to PE days for **next week only**.

**Year 4 and Year 3 - PE day will be Tuesday**

**Year 5 will change to Thursday**

All other year groups remain the same. Please ensure your child wears their PE kit on the day stated above. Thank you.

### Violin Lessons

As school closes next Thursday for half term, David Novalbos the violin teacher, will run violin lessons on Tuesday afternoon instead. Please ensure your child has their violin and instrument books in school. Lessons will operate at the same times.

## **IT Survey**

We sent out a short IT survey this week. We would appreciate it if as many parents as possible complete the survey so that we can assess the access our pupils have at home. We cannot gauge a full picture for Giles Brook without a good response. Thank you. Information will only be used internally.

## **Hot Lunches**

Hot lunches begin again next week. If you have not booked a hot lunch, please make sure you send your child to school with their own packed lunch. Hot lunches can now be booked online up until Christmas 2020.

## **Y6 transferring to Secondary School - September 2021**

If your child is in Y6 and transferring to secondary school in September 2021, a reminder that secondary school applications have to be received by Milton Keynes Local Authority by 31st October 2020.

## **Snowdonia - Year 6 and Sheringham - Year 5**

The deposit for the Y5 Sheringham residential is due today. The Snowdonia (Y6) payment is due by the 28th October 2020. We hope our residentials will go ahead but we won't know for certain until next year. If you would like a place for your child, please let Helen in the school office know so she is clear on numbers. Equally, please inform Helen if you no longer require a booked place.

There is the option to pay in instalments for residentials or wait for payment later in the school year - just be aware it can be a lot of money to pay in one lump sum! Any money paid will be refunded if residentials are cancelled. Thank you.

## **Parking**

We have had a number of complaints regarding parking over the last week. We encourage you to walk to school where this is possible or park at the Pavilion and walk from there. Please do not park on the double yellow lines in the carpark or on the surrounding roads. Despite staggered entry and exit times, there are still a large number of children entering and exiting the site at one time. Please consider the safety of our children and park appropriately. Thank you.

Finally, I cannot believe we are a week away from half term! A reminder that school closes at the end of Thursday 22nd October (Friday is an INSET day) and re-opens to children on Monday 2nd November.

Have a great weekend.

Angie Bailey

Deputy Headteacher/Head of School