



Dear Parents

It is hard to believe that we are already in October and heading to the end of our first half term this academic year. It has been a pleasure to see how hard the children have been working and the progress that they have already been making. I hope that many of you are able to hear about all of the children's hard work for yourself during the parent consultation meetings next week. Details of how we will be running Parent Consultations this term can be found further on in this newsletter.

Staff Announcements

Mrs Morris will be returning to the classroom full time after half term. We will therefore be saying a fond farewell to Mrs Kaup, who has done a fantastic job covering Mrs Morris' maternity leave. I am sure the parents of Year 2 children join me in wishing her all the very best for the future.

We also say farewell to Mrs Howells, who leaves us on Thursday 15th October for pastures new. Mrs Howells has been at St Lawrence Primary School for 9 years and has played a vital role in keeping all of the moving parts of the school going. She will be very missed but we do wish her all the best for the future.

Arriving at School

It has been noted that a number of children, particularly those children walking, cycling or scooting independently, are arriving at school before 8.30 a.m. with no adult to supervise these children outside the school gates. Could you please ensure that your children are not leaving home before they need to, in order to arrive at school on time.

It is also really important to ensure that your child can safely ride their bicycle or scooter and that they wear a helmet. If your child is not confident riding a bicycle, please ensure that they are accompanied by an adult.

School Photographs

The school photographs should be available to view and purchase within the next few days. Those parents that have registered will receive an email or text message with instructions on how to view the photos.

Flu Vaccination

The school nursing team will be here on Thursday 8th October to administer the flu vaccine. Children in Reception and Years 1 through to 6 will only be eligible where parental consent was submitted online.

Year 6 SATs Information Presentation

Unfortunately, we are unable to invite Year 6 parents into school this Thursday for our SATs Information Presentation. However, we are able to offer a Zoom presentation at 4.30 p.m. on Thursday 8th October. Parents will be sent the link to join the presentation in due course. The meeting will provide information about how you can help and support your child through the SATs process and the form that the SATs take.

A separate letter will follow with information about the Year 6 SATs Booster Club which will commence after half term. These sessions will take place weekly on a Monday after school and will continue until the SATs tests in May 2021.

Harvest Festival

As previously communicated, our virtual Harvest Festival service takes place on Friday 9th October. Donations of non-perishable goods will be gratefully received during next week, which in turn, will be passed on to the Rushden Food Bank. Children should place donations into the box in their classroom. Photos of the children participating in a variety of Harvest activities will be shared on the school website.

Parent Consultation Meetings for children in Reception and Years 1 to 6 on 13th and 14th October

In line with Government guidance, we have taken the decision not to hold Parent Consultation meetings in school. Parents will, however, be offered a 10 minute appointment with your child's teacher via Zoom. Bookings will be made via Parentmail and the system will go live at 6.00 p.m. this evening. You will receive a notification from Parentmail advising that the booking system is open.

Change to Bubbles

For staffing reasons, we will be increasing the current class bubbles to two classes per bubble at certain times during the day. Obviously our preference is to maintain smaller bubbles for teaching, but logistically, it is very challenging to manage morning break and particularly lunch time, with the space and staff available. We hope you understand and support the reasons for this change.

The bubbles for morning and lunch breaks will be as follows:

- Years 1 and 2
- Years 3 and 4
- Years 5 and 6

Nursery and Reception bubbles will remain separate.

Class bubbles will remain in place for all teaching times of the school day.

Parent Parking

It has been noted that parents are using the staff car park to drop children to school, particularly for breakfast club and at the end of the school day. The car park is for staff only. On several occasions recently, staff have been unable to park when arriving at school.

It is also the case that cars are being parked on the pavement of Manor Lane. This has resulted in parents and children unable to use the footpath. For safety reasons, please be considerate when parking to drop off and pick up your children.

School Website

We are in the process of moving to a new school website which we hope will go live before half term. Please take time to have a look at it. We hope you will find it much more user friendly and easier to navigate the information you may need.

We break for half term on Friday 23rd October and children return to school on Tuesday 3rd November. There is a staff training day on Monday 2nd November.

Yours sincerely



Sarah Bush
Headteacher