



SUTTON GREEN NEWSLETTER 2

Autumn 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

this term seems to be going by very quickly so I thought it would be helpful to remind you of some forthcoming events and dates, and send out a few reminders.

I hope you have all had chance to admire our newly refurbished EYFS outdoor area that has been developed with S4YC who are now running our pre-school as well as our Link Club. The Link Club is now accepting pre-school children attending the nursery and is open 7.45 – 9 and 3.15-6pm daily. We also had a very successful open morning, and welcomed some new families to the school. If you know of anyone else who is still to apply for September 2016 for reception/nursery please do tell them about us and encourage them to apply as we have a Pupil Admission Number of 40.

If you are in school, attending events, please do also take time to admire our new thematic display in the main corridor based on the book 'The Story of Life.' All classes have contributed and there is some wonderful work on display. The Website also provides lot of other opportunities to see some recent events and activities the children have been involved in – click on to gallery of class pages. Special thanks to everyone who contributed clothes, money, or made shoeboxes for our charity work this term – Poppy Appeal, Claire House and Operation Christmas Child. It is important to remember that the Christmas season is about giving as well as receiving. Well done to the Y6 children who completed their 'Let's Bike' training under the excellent tuition of instructor and Governor Mr Hague. During November we have also been focusing on PSHCE and RE with a focus on anti-bullying, and multi-faith.

Please note that all dates are updated regularly via the calendar on the website, along with notification about events. www.suttongreen.org. School Spider also has a phone app that can also be downloaded and then indicate which school you wish to access.

We were informed that recently that there had been some negative comments made on social media about notification about events – as a school we felt this was unjustified, given that dates on the calendars are posted almost a year in advance and updated regularly, along with additional newsletters, class letters and reminders sent via text messaging.

Forward dates for your attention

- Christmas Bingo – organised by PTA. Eyes down at 6.30. Admission by ticket only from 6pm and includes refreshments. Thanks to Mrs Reid for coordinating and all her help over the years for the PTA.
- Christmas productions. Due to fire regulations, we are allocating 2 tickets per family. Any additional seats will then be allocated to waiting lists. *There is also the option of attending the dress rehearsal for KS2 on the afternoon of Friday 4th December for those parents/carers who were unable to attend those dates.* Dates for these are: KS2 at 2pm and 6pm on Monday 7th December. Please note evening production is now full. KS1 at 10am and 2pm on Friday 11th December.
- Wednesday 9th December – flu spray for year 1 & 2 children.
- Wednesday 16th December – Christmas dinner. This is also wear your Christmas jumper day for our charity Claire House. A donation of £1 per pupil is suggested.
- Parties for the children are: Monday 14th December EYFS /KS1. LJ (Years 3 & 4) on Tuesday 15th December. Wednesday 16th December UJ (Years 5 & 6). OWN CLOTHES FOR THE PARTY CAN BE WORN ON THAT DAY.
- Christmas Panto. Thanks to PTFA for subsidising the cost. Tuesday 8th December EYFS/KS1 and Miss Dunning/Mr Lobley's class. Friday 11th December KS2 classes in Year 4-6 along with Mrs Winterson's class.
- Secret Santa will take place on 3rd/4th December in top learning lab kindly organised by PTA. Children can bring £1.50 for a gift to choose and wrap.
- End of term Friday 18th December at 1.30. The children come back to school on Tuesday 5th January 2016.

We have now agreed forward **inset dates** for 16-17 academic year when the children do not need to be in school and these are on our website along with the forward term dates.

- 5th September 2016
- 7th November 2016.
- 22nd and 23rd December 2016. The children will finish school at 1.30 on Wednesday 21st December.
- MAY – on polling day. Date to be confirmed.

Leave of Absence.

Following our Governor's meeting in November, we have now changed our absence policy that will take effect from January 2016. In line with Dfe guidance, and the need to reduce the number of unauthorised absences, all unauthorised absences lasting more than 5 days/10 consecutive sessions will be subject to fines. Evidence of absence due to illness for longer periods of absence will also be requested. The HT still has the power to grant discretionary leave of absence, but this only for exceptional circumstances and will be looked at on a case by case basis.. Scrutiny of attendance, including arriving at school on time is now a focus in the revised Ofsted framework, and missing school/first input into lessons can input significantly on a child's progress.

PLEASE NOTE NO LEAVE OF ABSENCE WILL BE GRANTED DURING MAY FOR Y2 OR Y6 CHILDREN DUE TO STATUTORY ASSESSMENT TESTS.

Reminders

Mobile phones

- Mobile phones should not be used by any parent/carer on the school site due to safeguarding requirements.
- If your child needs to use a mobile phone, then permission is needed in advance with parents providing a written letter for staff. Children with a phone must then enter via the front entrance and the phone given to office staff to be kept in the office safe during the school day, and it is switched off. The child then leaves via the front entrance collecting their phone on the way out. The phones should not be switched back on until clear of the school site.
- Parents/Carers are allowed to use mobile phones to take pictures during school performances, but photos can only be of your child. You are not allowed to post any pictures of other children onto social media as permission has not been given for you to do this. Please respect this rule. Please do not record the performances.

Other reminders

- No dogs should be brought on to the school site, including small dogs that are carried.
- Please supervise pre-school children carefully. They should not be using school climbing frames etc
- Continue to be vigilant and park safely. We are continuing to liaise with the local police and residents.
- As the weather can't make its mind up, please make sure your child is prepared for all weathers. All children need a hat, gloves, waterproof and warm coat to wear when outside if it is wet/cold. Please remember school shoes must be worn, and if trainers are worn at playtime then children must get changed back into shoes during lesson time. Please make sure your child has suitable outdoor PE kit for KS2 – tracksuit, trainers, sweatshirt- sport coaches will take the children outside.

Finally ... if I don't get chance to speak to you personally, I will be wishing everyone an enjoyable December and well earned Christmas Break when it finally arrives!

Mrs Ann Griffiths