



New Year News

09.01.2020

Dear parents,

Happy New Year to you all. We hope you had a lovely festive break. This is the first newsletter of 2020 and we will be looking to keep you informed throughout the term of any news and events taking place in the School.

We also add a separate note from the Governors which we invite you to read.

January

- 13th 11.25am Molly Men visit
- 14th YR3/YR4 WWII dress up day
- 15th Primary 2020 Admissions deadline
- 16th Family worker drop in session
- 21st 3pm Parent Forum – How we inspire & challenge through the curriculum at Sutton
- 23rd 9am Parent Forum – How we inspire & challenge through the curriculum at Sutton
- 24th Y1 Circus skills
- 27th Book fair starts
- 29th Family workshop: Anger Workshop

February

- 7th Pre valentines disco FOSS
- 11th Family worker drop in session
- 14th Last day of school
- 14th Height/Weight checks YR/Y6
- 14th 1.30pm-2.30pm Y3/Y4 Athletics
- 24th First day of school
- 28th 10-12.30pm Y5 Hockey

Reception 2020 admissions

Thank you to those of you who have attended one of our Open sessions for the 2020/21 Reception admissions. If you have a child who is starting school in September 2020 please note that the deadline for applications is 15th January 2020.

Christingle carols

It was wonderful to have so many of you join us for our Christingle Collective Worship at the end of term. We just about managed to dodge the rain this time.

Thank you so much to all the helpers that joined in with the Christingle making at the end of term, and especially to Sue Read providing the fruit & Mr Bristow for providing the red tape. All these contributions and support were greatly appreciated.

Over the next term we will have many opportunities to welcome parents into school to take part in events alongside their children and will keep you up to date with our plans.

Attendance

We will be celebrating those children with excellent attendance last term in an assembly next week, including those with 100%, most improved and those who would have 100% were it not for exceptional circumstances. The class with the best attendance will also be announced.

As per county guidance, letters continue to go out to families where attendance falls short of government expectations & we meet with families where attendance is cause for concern and affecting learning.

Whilst we understand that sometimes pupils can't attend due to ill health, we are legally obliged to, as well as passionate about relentlessly promoting good attendance and supporting and challenging families where attendance needs to improve - in order to afford children the best educational chances.

Our whole school attendance is currently 95.31% which is still below government expectations.

Well done and thank you to those of you that arrange your holidays outside of term time, arrange doctor/dentist/optician appointments etc out of school hours or later in the afternoon so that they are not missing prime learning time, and also to those of you that talk to us about how we can help support if your child is slightly under the weather, as opposed to too poorly to come in to school.

A leaflet is attached that explains a little more about how these seemingly small absences make a difference to your child's educational chances.

Online payments

Online payments are now live on MCAS for dinner payments only. Functionality will be added in the future for things such as school trips. You may also see other options being added to the MCAS system which are new, as this is a developing platform, as mentioned in previous newsletters. From 24th February we will not be able to accept cash or cheques for dinner money. If you require assistance with paying online, please contact the school office.

Guide dogs

As well as welcoming a number of new children & their families to our school community over the last term, you may also have noticed that we welcomed Dotty, a guide dog who belongs to one of our new families. She is a gorgeous dog who is sure to win the hearts of all, however please be aware that she is a working dog and the public should refrain from petting her so she can carry out her work duties.

Please also be reminded that other dogs on site are strictly prohibited for health and safety reasons.

Communication

Thank you to all of you who have taken the time to give your positive feedback regarding MCAS and Class Dojo. We are continually refining our use of these systems and glad that you are finding them a useful means of communicating with us.

In the past I have been contactable via Class Dojo, however this was a short term solution whilst the leadership structures were taking shape and beginning to make good use of the system. We now have phase leaders, the school office as well as Mrs Brown, our Welfare Officer, linked to all classes so that you are able to contact them directly.

I am now unable to respond to individual messages through the Class Dojo app. If you have a matter that cannot be dealt with by other senior leaders then please do not hesitate to get in touch via email or via the school office. Please be aware that if the matter can be dealt with by another Senior Leader, it will be passed on to them.

If you are still having issues with logging into MCAS on a computer, please contact the office to request a new invitation code. If the problems relate to the app, please try uninstalling and reinstalling the app. If the problems continue, please contact the office who will reset your invitation code.

Behaviour

We understand that sometimes the behaviour of certain individuals may be a cause for concern on occasion.

We are a restorative school and our policy and practices are in line with county approved, Step On approaches. This means that we seek to support pupils to de-escalate where possible and reflect, repair and restore, where harm has been caused.

Please be assured that all incidents of behaviour are dealt with as per our behaviour policy in an equitable manner. However, equality does not mean everyone getting the same thing. Some children do require adapted approaches and alternative strategies to support, and support plans are designed in line with specialist advice. This does not mean that pupils are rewarded for poor behaviour and sanctions not applied. Where challenges arise, pupils are praised afterward for making good choices, turning things around and making amends - just as every child is also rewarded regularly for good choices, earning dojo points.

Consequences and sanctions are always applied, though this is rarely in a public forum, as everyone has the right to be treated with respect and public sanctions would not be maintaining dignity of the child.

If you have concerns about how any incident has been dealt with, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's class teacher and/or phase leader.

Term dates

Please note the term dates on the school website are correct and up to date. We have recently added the provisional dates term dates for 2020/21 too, which can be found at the bottom of this terms dates. Please note however, that these are the standard dates issued by the Local Authority and inset days are yet to be applied. We have had a number of requests regarding the term dates for next year which will be confirmed as soon as they have been finalised (end of January is the usual timeframe for this). Please bear this in mind when booking any holidays or events which could impact on term time.

New School Menu

A new school menu for the Spring term was sent out on MCAS before the Christmas holidays, and a copy can be found on the website under Basic Information on the Parent's Pages.

FOSS

FOSS would like to thank you all for your continued support during the first term of the school year.

Our dates for the diary this term are, Friday 7th Feb 2020 we are holding a pre valentines disco in the school hall. And on Saturday 21st March 2020 we will be holding an 80's themed disco for ADULTS ONLY. Details of both will follow shortly.

Key Stage 2 Reading

We are launching a new Reading Record Log in Key Stage 2 to encourage children to read every day. A sheet will be sent alongside the homework on Mondays and can be returned the following week. There is a space for your child to record what they have read, who they read it with and a few questions about the text. Children can log anything they read, whether it is a comic, a newspaper or a book and there will be Dojos given for regular reading.

If you have any questions, please Dojo message your child's class teacher or Mrs Gates.

The Book People's Big Book Boost

The Book People are currently promoting a scheme which could benefit the school, details of which are below.

What is Big Book Boost? Big Book Boost is The Book People's brand new fundraising scheme. Every time you place an order with The Book People over £10, they will donate £1 to a school of your choice for them to spend on books!

www.thebookpeople.co.uk

Kind regards,



Mrs E Gore-Rowe
Headteacher