



Learn. Enjoy. Achieve.



Autumn Newsletter 2 - Friday 29th September 2017

Dear Parents / Carers,

I want to start by saying what a great trip we had to the theatre in Northampton on 20th September; not only because the production of The Railway Children was excellent and very professionally done but also because the children were so impeccably behaved that two separate people made a point of coming over to us and telling us so! The Y4-Y6 children that we took were a credit to us all, without exception!



If your child rides to school on a bike or a scooter, even if you accompany them, please take the time to remind them about road safety as we have had two "near misses" reported to us already this term. The worst involved a child riding out into the road without looking as a car was coming along! Needless to say, that could have been very nasty. Children need to be reminded that they should keep two hands on their handlebars at all times unless signalling and that riding along the centre of Gordon Road with no hands on their bike is not safe! Thank you for your support with this.

Thank you for all your co-operation during our unexpected fire alarm activation last Monday. The system just would not re-set and so we could not be sure that there was not a problem somewhere in the building and hence, why no-one was allowed back in for a long time. A positive aspect is that we have now had to revisit our evacuation procedures in full. In these circumstances, when we have no access to school computers, our only method of contacting parents is via a text to the priority contact's details. Rest assured that if at any point a parent/carer does not get the text message, we will look after the children until you can be contacted.



Another reminder that if your child is off ill then you must let the school office know; please do not communicate this information via the Class Dojo system as it is the office staff who process and follow up the absences and not the teachers. The same applies to medical appointments where the school office must be told. If you also (but not instead of) wish to inform the class teacher then for these occasions please do so. If your child is attending a medical appointment during school time that is totally unavoidable, then we will ask you for an appointment letter or card in order that we can authorise it. If your child is out of school for the first part of the morning but will be back and requires a school lunch then please remember, when informing the office of the absence, to order your child's lunch so that we know which option they would like.



On the subject of school lunches I would like to inform you that during the last summer term we put our catering contract out to tender with the aim of improving the provision. Five companies submitted tenders, we shortlisted three but actually interviewed two as one company pulled out at the last minute. The interviews lasted for a whole morning and involved formal questions, a presentation from the companies and then food tasting. We had staff, governors, parents and children involved at all stages. I am pleased to say that we chose a company called Edwards and Blake to provide our meals. We had also visited a school where they had taken over the meal contract and the school were very pleased with their whole service. We would like to invite you to some food tasting sessions that Edwards and Blake are going to be holding; they will be running throughout our October Parents' evenings on both the Tuesday and the Thursday evenings in the hall. Please go along and see them and have a taster! If you are not having your consultation on those evenings but would still like to pop in then please do!



A reminder that our staff car park is just that – a car park for staff. Neither parents of our children nor pre-school parents are permitted to park in there during normal school hours' drop-off and pick-up. We do allow drop off and pick up for Swifts out-of-school club.

We have had a parent express their concern over the way another parent spoke to a member of school staff which they described as exceptionally rude and disrespectful. We do not tolerate this and will take action against parents or anyone else found to be doing this. If you have an issue with something connected with school then please follow correct procedures and either phone or email school with your concern or make an appointment to come in and discuss it with us. Thank you.



We are looking forward to our school Harvest celebrations next week; Foundation and Key Stage 1 on Tuesday and Key Stage 2 on Thursday. We always very much appreciate the generous donations that you send in. As you know we pass everything on to Jimmy's Night Shelter in Cambridge via the church.

We do not intend to send out copies of our contact details for you to check through but if you have changed any details and not informed us, please do so or if you wish to double check that we have everything up-to-date, please have a word with one of the office team.

Kindest Regards

Diane Hawkes – Headteacher