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SEEND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Seend C. of E. Primary School Newsletter October 2019

Photographs

The individual and family photographs are booked for 15th October. Pre-schoolers are invited to attend from 8:30 – please come to the hall door. All children will have an individual and family photograph if they have siblings at the school and then it will be up to you if, and what, you decide to order.

Harvest service and donations

As always, we will be collecting non-perishable food for Melksham Foodbank as part of our harvest celebrations. The



foods they specifically require at the moment are UHT milk, tinned meat, potatoes, peas / carrots and dried rice / pasta, tinned tuna and sweet corn - then they can make a meal. Tins of fruit, custard and sponge puddings so they can then have a dessert. Biscuits, cake and chocolate are good for treats. Cereal and baked beans are good too.

The service will be in the church and you are all welcome to join us there on 17th October, starting at 10:00.

Shoebboxes and cards

I now have flatpack Shoebboxes available in the office (40p each) for those of you who wish to pack a box per [instructions](#) sent out previously but who haven't got access to the correct size shoebox.

Re the Christmas card designs, you should all have received a blank piece of A4 paper too, if not, please let us know and we can provide one if needed. We do have a few spare order forms so if a pre-schooler wanted to do a card too, then pop in the office and we can provide an extra sheet.

Successful appointment

Not that Mrs Barker can be replaced, but I am pleased to announce that we have been successful in appointing a new pupil services officer, Amy Huntley, who will be starting in 4 weeks' time. There is going to be a couple of weeks when we have no permanent member of staff in the office, but support is going to be provided by The Whitehorse Federation. Please be patient during this time of transition.

A reminder that Helen's last day is Tuesday 8th October – I know we will all be sad to see her leave.

Half term and TD day.

We break-up for half term on 23rd October, with 4th November being a TD day so children will return to school on 5th November.

On the TD day, staff will be continuing their work on developing a curriculum that embodies our school vision.

Extra money available

If either parent is in receipt of the following benefits, we get an extra £1320 each year (even if you stop being eligible) to spend on supporting your child at school.

- Income Support
 - Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
 - Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
 - Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
 - Working Tax Credit 'run-on'
 - Universal Credit
- Register [here](#) and we will automatically get a notification.

In the news

Salisbury Diocese were keen to share the news of the school's vision, impacting on the children when 5 of our ex-pupils were confirmed a couple of weeks ago. The full story can be seen [here](#).

Keeping in touch

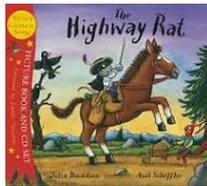
Follow us on Twitter @seendschool and join the Foss Facebook page to help ensure you are kept in the loop about what is going on in school.

Making life easier

There are a couple of steps you could take that would make life much easier in the office, and as things are going to be a little bit up in the air until the new admin officer is settled, now is the perfect time for you to help us with these. The first one is simply to pay electronically for clubs, lunches, trips etc. as this will reduce a variety of subsequent office tasks. Secondly, the office day is regularly interspersed with the bringing in of forgotten equipment / clothing / lunchboxes etc. which can halt the flow of the admin work being undertaken so anything that can be done to reduce the incidents of these would be very welcome. Thank you for your co-operation with these.

Scholastic book club

Many thanks to those parents who ordered from the book club leaflet sent home a couple of weeks ago. The school earned £50 in rewards which we have used to buy another 5 books with audio CDs for Holly Class listening centre.



Summer Reading Challenge

Seend School children and parents have surpassed themselves this year with the summer reading challenge. We have had a massive 74 certificates back which is about 67% of pupils completing the challenge – a special thanks to the children and parents in reception as so many of them took part, which all adds to the figures. Whilst giving out the certificates in our celebration worship, we received official notification that we were yet again the highest performing school in the area.



Parents' Evening

From Friday 4th October, you will be able to sign up to parents' evenings that are on 14th and 21st Oct. You will have a 10-minute slot to talk to your child's teacher about how they are getting on / settling in, and ways you can support them at home. We are between electronic booking systems at the moment so paper lists will go up in the hall for parents to sign at the beginning of the day in the hall at drop off time. If you would like to ring the office after 9:00 an appointment can be made for you if you don't come up to school, or pop in the office at the end of the day.

Did you know ...

New parents may not know but two of the TAs run a creche in Holly Class, during parent Goldbook. This allows everyone to hear what is being said by staff and children without distraction, whilst also giving your child a chance to experience the joys of the reception class before they start school so it is a win win situation.

Café Church

Don't forget the next Café Church is on October 6th at 11:00 am. This is a special pet service, so you are encouraged to bring your pets or photographs of your pets for a blessing. Children will be asked if they would like to do a reading or say a prayer, so you may get a note home because your child has expressed an interest.



Building with bricks

Our Lego club is going very well thanks to Mrs Hall. Each creation this term is linked to a Viking theme, and so far, the children have created a Viking Warrior, a longboat and a Viking Feast. I can't wait to see what they come up with next week. Due to its popularity, it will continue next term, so look out for details that will be sent to you in a couple of weeks, so you don't miss your chance to book. Numbers are limited to 15 (yrs 1-3) so don't delay in booking.



Coats are a must

Please ensure your child has a waterproof coat in school everyday. We do like to get the children outside, even if it is raining, so a raincoat is essential at this time of year. As we head into winter, hats, scarves and gloves will be essential too – all named of course!



Save the Date

A lovely suggestion has been put forward by Emma Groom, our Senco, who saw details of a multi-day fundraising activity where the proceeds go to planting trees in Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique and Haiti. Further details can be found on the [Just one Tree](http://www.justonetree.org) website but the day is 22nd November and we thought wearing green and brown coloured clothes, or clothes with leaves on them perhaps, would be a good theme, or you could go crazy and design and make an outfit if you are that way inclined! This supports our school vision in 2 ways – give generously and show environmental responsibility.



Your fundraising committee matters

The fundraising committee are organising another quiz night Oct 18th in the Pavilion. Pre-booking is a must as this event was sold out last time. Send an email to friendsofseendschool@gmail.com to book your table. The date for the Christmas Fayre has been set for a Nov 29th in the school hall at 6:00 p.m. If any of you talented people would like a stall at the event, please use the Friends of email address above to request one. Finally, there is a Christmas Children's Disco on Friday 13th December. The date of the next general FoSS meeting is Tuesday 8th October, 7:00 at The Barge – all are welcome.



Oh, and a big thanks to the 5 new supporters on [Easyfundraising](http://www.easyfundraising.com). Since we first registered with the scheme, the school has raised £1727.56 and with all that Christmas shopping about to happen, it is an ideal time to use it and help raise much needed funds for the school but at no extra cost to yourselves. Or even if you just do Sainsbury's online shopping – we get 50p each time so there is no time to lose.