

SUTTON CE (VC) PRIMARY  
SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 4

Harvest Festival

We will be holding our annual Harvest Festival on Tuesday 7 October at St Andrew's Church. Pupils will be asked to come to school in the usual way and will be registered in their classes before lining up to walk to St Andrew's Church en masse.

When we walk to the church we use a 'family grouping' system whereby our older pupils walk with our younger pupils. However we do require a lot of adult/parent helpers to help supervise the pupils as we walk to the church. If you can help on the morning of Tuesday 6 October please contact your child's class teacher.

This year we would like the children to bring harvest gifts of non-perishable food – tins, bags of dried goods etc. **Please do not send your child to school with fresh food.** All of the donated food, together with the Harvest gifts from the congregation at St Andrew's Church will be going to the Ely Foodbank.

Parent Consultations

Each term there is the opportunity for parents to meet with their child's class teacher to discuss their progress. This term our Parent Consultations are on:

Thursday 9 October     3.30 – 5.30 pm  
Thursday 20 November 5.30 – 7.30 pm

All appointments are 10 minutes in length. Appointments can be made by contacting the school office. Please note appointments cannot be made on the day of the consultation; this allows staff time to prepare for this event. It is not necessary for parents to attend

every consultation held during the year.

Book Week

A letter was sent home to parents on Wednesday detailing our plans for our annual Book Week.

If you did not get a copy of this letter please contact the school office staff who will ensure that a copy is sent home. The whole week will take the theme of Myths. The key points for the week include:

- Theatre production visit to school to perform 'The Sword in the Stone'
- Book Shop in school from Wednesday 15 October until Tuesday 21 October – before and after school
- Film night in the hall from 3:10 until 4:30pm on Thursday 16 October. Showing the Disney version of Sword in the Stone. £1 entry includes popcorn.
- Dressing Up Day – Friday 17 October. Pupils are encouraged to come dressed up as their favourite book character.

Once a Week take a Peek!

One in five children will have head lice at any one time...Head lice are an extremely common issue but they can cause a great deal of frustration, embarrassment and upset to both children and parents if not caught early enough and treated correctly.

The website [www.onceaweektakeapeek.com](http://www.onceaweektakeapeek.com) has some great advice for parents on head lice management.

There is also a new animation on head lice available. The video is a fresh new approach to head lice

management – an amusing yet cautionary tale for parents. Visit [www.facebook.com/onceaweektakeapeek](http://www.facebook.com/onceaweektakeapeek) for more information.

#### Absence from School

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school we ask that parents notify the school. This can be done by leaving a message on our automated phone system; the school number is 01353 778351.

Our school policy, in conjunction with health advice, is that a child suffering from sickness or diarrhoea should remain away from school for a full 48hrs **after** all the symptoms have stopped.

We do follow up any absence that we have not been told about but our efforts often end in failure due to parents not keeping their contact details current and up to date.

**Please tell us if you change your details.**

#### FOSS Cake Break

FOSS will be holding a Cake Break for the children on Thursday 16 October 2014.

During the academic year parents in each Key Stage are asked to bake a few cakes each which are then sold to the children at morning break time. Each cake costs 30p and the pupils are allowed to purchase one cake during their playtime. Any spare cakes are then sold to the parents at the end of the school day.

All proceeds from these events go to the Friends of Sutton School (FOSS) charity.

During the year FOSS help to fund a number of school trips across the school by subsidising the costs to parents. This is in addition to the major fund raising activities that they

are currently working towards. This year FOSS have agreed to help the school with our programme to replace the Interactive White Boards (IWBs) throughout the school.

#### Holidays during Term Time

Our school Attendance Policy clearly states that we aim to minimise the amount of time lost to term time holidays through a policy which actively discourages parents from arranging family holidays during this time. Parents should not expect leave of absence to be granted automatically as leave for the purpose of a family holiday will only be granted in exceptional circumstances and not for multiple requests during a school year. If leave of absence is taken without authorisation, it will be recorded in the schools attendance register as an unauthorised absence and may be referred to the school's Education Welfare Officer.

Absence during term time interrupts the continuity of teaching and learning and disrupts the educational progress of individual children. In a week lots of things can happen within the life of a school; children can miss whole areas of a topic being taught in maths or English. In addition the social aspects of a child's development including their friendships can move on making it difficult for the returning child to fit back in with their peer groups.

#### Leaflets

During the course of the year the school is often asked to distribute leaflets to parents which promote different activities for children taking place in and around the Sutton area.

Parents need to be aware that when engaging with these companies they should always check that the leaders are DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) enhanced checked and cleared. The school does not undertake these checks unless the

organisation is working as part of the school or WASP provision.

#### Money for School

Please can parents place all money that is for any of our school activities, including school dinners, in a sealed envelope with your child's name and class on the front.

All monies can be taken to your child's class teacher.

There is also a black metal post box in the corridor outside our main office where parents can deposit payments. Please remember payments for school meals can be made online using the Agora Payment System. This is a safer way to make payments. Details about this site will be sent to our new parents shortly.

#### School Newsletters

We send out a School Newsletter on a Weekly basis. These are all numbered and dated to help parents keep up to date with what is happening at school.

An electronic copy is placed on our school website, [www.sutton.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.sutton.cambs.sch.uk) if you mislay your copy.

#### Dates for the Half Term

**Tuesday 7 October** – Harvest Festival @ St Andrew's Church

**Thursday 9 October** – Parent Consultations 3:30-5:30pm

**Friday 10 October** – Yr 5 to Ely Fire Station

**Monday 13 October** – Book Week starts

**Tuesday 14 October** – Theatre Visit to school

**Tuesday 14 October** - Governors Finance and Personnel Committee

**Wednesday 15 October** - School Book Shop in the school hall

**Thursday 16 October** – FOSS Cake Break. KS2 Parents to bake please

**Thursday 23 October** – Phonics Evening for Foundation Stage Parents

**Thursday 23 October** – End of KS2 SATs Information Evening for Yr 6 Parents

**Friday 24 October** – INSET Day for teaching staff

**Monday 27 October – Friday 31 October** inc Half Term Holiday

**Monday 3 November** – School starts following Half Term holiday.

**Thursday 13 November** – Individual School Photographs

03.10.2014