

SUTTON CE (VC) PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 2

Welcome back! I hope that everyone has had a lovely summer; it was certainly lovely to have the opportunity to sit and feel the sun on our faces...

Parentmail

We understand that some people are having problems receiving our electronic newsletters at the moment via parentmail . Please do bear with us; we have contacted the company and have asked them to notify us when the problem is fixed.

School Fete

Don't forget that our School Fete is being held tomorrow, Saturday 20 September 2014, between 12:00 – 15:00hrs.

It's not too late to get involved. You can help by coming along on:

- Friday afternoon to help the FOSS Committee to set up
- Saturday morning to help set up
- Saturday afternoon to participate in the games and raffles

Meet the Teacher Evenings

Thank you to all the parents who came along to our Meet the Teacher Evenings last night.

It was lovely to have so many parents come along to a school event.

Ofsted Report

We were able to release our most recent Ofsted Report on Tuesday 9 September 2014. This followed our school inspection at the end of term.

An electronic copy is now available on our school website:

www.sutton.cambs.sch.uk

If you did not receive a paper copy and would like one please do contact the school office and we will arrange for a copy to be sent home.

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.

Violin Lessons

I am delighted to welcome Mrs Fiona Dagg to our school. Mrs Dagg is a music teacher who will be offering to teach the violin to pupils who would like to learn.

If you would like your child to learn to play this instrument please leave your contact details with the staff in the school office and Mrs Dagg will get in touch to provide further details.

Nuts

We have pupils at our school who have a severely allergy to nuts. Contact with nut based products will cause these pupils to become very ill.

As a consequence our school community is a 'nut free' environment.

Parents of pupils who bring a packed lunch need to be aware that **no** nut based products are permitted. Please read the labels of products carefully as food items like chocolate spread are often made with a nut based product.

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.**

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 authorization, 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.

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.

School Diary

Copies of our School Diary were sent out to parents on Thursday 18 September 2014. If you did not receive a copy of this document that is printed onto orange card please contact the school office. We deliberately print this document onto brightly coloured card so that it can be easily seen when pinned on a notice board or stuck to the fridge door at home.

Please do keep your copy safe.

Family Assemblies

We are still working on a format for our Family Assemblies this term. Our increasing school roll means that we are reviewing our current format.

Details will be sent out to parents as soon as they have been finalised.

Better Reading Partners

We are currently recruiting parents/grandparents who would like to work with some of our children supporting their reading. Volunteers will need to be able to give at least 20 mins of their time a week on a regular basis and, in addition to this, be able to do a little bit of preparation at home before the reading sessions.

If you are interested in helping in this way please let our school office staff know. There are two training sessions on Friday 26 September and Monday 6 October both of which will run between 9:30am and 3:00pm at the latest.

Please leave your name at the office if you are interested. Thank you

Dogs on the school grounds

Unfortunately it is not possible to bring dogs onto our school grounds. In the past few years we have seen a number of dogs react 'out of character' when on the crowded playground and, as a result, we now ask parents and carers to refrain from bringing their pets onto the school grounds.

Name Tags

Last term we collected a lot of school uniform that was not named. If your child's school uniform is named it increases the chance of it being returned to your child if it gets lost.

The following website:

www.stuckonyou.com.au

has been brought to my attention as a possible source of good quality, durable labels. A search on Google has also identified a number of other sites that appear to sell similar products.

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.

Yr 5/6 Trip

Our Yr 5/6 pupils went on a trip to Ely Cathedral and Museum on Wednesday. The visit was designed to support the children's learning about the local area including the Littleport Riots and the building of the Cathedral itself.

It was lovely to hear that during the trip the school staff received many positive comments about the pupils' behaviour whilst they worked in the Cathedral and Museum.

Creating a new cycleway from Witcham to Wentworth

Work starts next week (week commencing 22 September) on the construction of a new 1.5km foot and cycleway which will complete the cycle path link between Sutton and Ely.

Cambridgeshire County Council plans to build the new route between Sutton and Wentworth alongside the A142. The new path will provide a segregated or low traffic route from the village of Sutton-in-the-Isle all the way to Ely.

A 2m wide dual use foot and cycle path will be constructed between Sutton and Witcham Toll and a path between 1 and 1.5m will link Witcham Toll to Witchford. The paths will provide a separate and largely segregated route for pedestrians and cyclists alongside a busy A-road where no current path exists.

Works are expected to take around 2 months to complete. The new cycleway is anticipated to cost £350,000 and will be funded from the DfT's Local Sustainable Transport Fund, which aims to improve links between employment sites and residential areas.

More information including engineering drawings of the route is available on the County Council's website at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/cycling.

If you have any questions about the scheme please contact Transport Delivery on transport.delivery@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or call 01223 699906.

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 if you mislay your copy.

Dates for the Half Term

Tuesday 23 September –Yr 6 Creative Arts Morning at WVC
Tuesday 23 September Governors Business Meeting 7:00pm
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 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

19.09.2014