



# NEWSLETTER

September 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new school year and a very warm welcome to all the new families who have joined us.

We have had a fantastic start to the year; the children have settled in well and there is a wonderful positive feel around the school. This year our focus is to develop children's skills, attitudes and knowledge around global citizenship and over the past two weeks year groups have focused on one aspect: Local community (Y3), Diversity (Y4), Global Dependence (Y5), Power and Governance (Y6). The two weeks have culminated in our first House Day of the year. Children have worked together across year groups, making flags, learning global games, creating flags and making pledges for their houses. It has been a delight to see the children all working so well together across the school. Please ask your children all about their learning.

You may also be aware that we have been developing our outdoor learning environment over the past year and this continues to be a focus for us over this academic year. We are planning on have another Ground Force Day next half term to tidy up the grounds and plant bulbs ready for spring. We would be grateful for as many families as possible to join us again – it was so successful last year. We will also continue to fund raise for playground equipment and markings in addition to asking for some of the FFLS proceeds from last year. It is enabling us already to make much greater use of our grounds to enhance and extend the curriculum and use it as a resource for children to experiment, investigate and have fun!

Over the summer our site team worked hard to make further improvements to our learning environment. The last of our upper school classrooms have been redecorated and a new carpet has been laid throughout the upper school. The cleaners have deep cleaned the whole building and everything looks sparkling! I ask now that you help us to keep the carpets looking new for as long as possible by encouraging your children to use the pathways when walking to school to prevent mud being traipsed through the building. In half term we are planning on laying new carpet down the corridor adjacent to the hall.

I am very pleased to be able to inform you that during the summer we received notification that we had achieved and our Silver Star Travel Plan Award. Thank you to all the staff and children who helped us to achieve this but particularly our Governor Mrs Ketteman who was the driving force behind it. You will see the new logo at the bottom of our letters as soon as it arrives.

Please read your year group newsletters to find out more about what is happening in your child's class. We are always very pleased to welcome parents who can come and help hear readers or help in other ways. Please contact your child's teacher if you can spare an hour or two.

Mrs C Martinez  
Headteacher

## Governor Update

Our governing body is keen to improve the communication they have with parents over the year so have decided to give you a brief update on our newsletters each month. Here is our first update from Matthew Bailey, Chair of Governors.

*A warm welcome to our existing and new parents from the Governing Body. We met last night for our first Full Governing Body meeting of the school year where I was elected Chair of Governors for the year. Each of our governors is allocated to different committees and subject areas to fully utilise our combined skills and experience. The Governing Body looks forward to working with the school as a critical friend to help provide the best learning environment for your children.*

*We currently have 2 vacancies on the Governing Body, so if you would to find out more about the role, please get in contact via the school office.*



### REMINDER

*If your child has long hair please ensure that it is tied up for school. Incidents of head lice are common and this helps your child avoid being infested. We also find that during lessons children often find it difficult to see what they are doing when hair is in their eyes. Thank you for your support.*



This year we are once again taking part in Jeans for Genes on 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Children are invited to wear their jeans and bring a pound in for Genetic Disorders UK. They are required to wear their school tops and shoes. To find out more about the charity visit: [www.jeansforgenesday.org](http://www.jeansforgenesday.org)



### School Gate Opening

**Please be advised that the school gates will now be opened at 3.15pm (previously 3.00pm). This gives maximum safety and security for the children working in the school grounds. Thank you for your understanding.**



### DIARY DATES

September		October	
18 <sup>th</sup>	Yr5 Meet the Teacher - 2.45pm	5 <sup>th</sup>	Prospective Parents Evening
19 <sup>th</sup>	Yr6 Meet the Teacher – 2.45pm	6 <sup>th</sup>	Snappers Individual Photos
19 <sup>th</sup>	5BG QMC trip – 9am - 12pm	6 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest Assembly
19 <sup>th</sup>	5BI QMC trip – 12pm - 3pm	10 <sup>th</sup>	Yr3 Topic Outcome 2.45pm
19 <sup>th</sup>	Choir Starts 3.30pm – 4.30pm	12 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Drop In to see Mrs Murphy
20 <sup>th</sup>	Yr4 Meet the Teacher – 2.45pm	13 <sup>th</sup>	FFLS Disco
21 <sup>st</sup>	Yr3 Meet the Teacher – 2.45pm	20 <sup>th</sup>	Non School Uniform fund raiser
21 <sup>st</sup>	5SM QMC trip – 12pm - 3pm	23 <sup>rd</sup> - 27 <sup>th</sup>	Half Term
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Jeans for Genes Day	30 <sup>th</sup>	Inset Day
27 <sup>th</sup>	Yr6 Trip to Basingstoke	<b>November</b>	
28 <sup>th</sup>	National Poetry Day	6 <sup>th</sup>	Yr6 Fire Safety Workshop
28 <sup>th</sup>	Yr4 Viking Day and visitor	6 <sup>th</sup>	Yr4 QMC Visit