

Dear Parents and Carers



### Company Giving Days

Does your company fund 'giving' days? We are looking for any organisation that is interested in providing volunteers for events and activities in the school. Please contact the school office if you think that you can help.



### Farewell

Miss Soofi in Year 6 leaves us next week. She only joined us in September and we wish her well in finding the career of her choice.



### Allotment Volunteers

Have you got green fingers? Are you good at digging? We are looking for some volunteers to set up an allotment in the grounds of the school. If you are interested then please contact me via the school office. Our aim is to get the children growing some of their own food.



### Long term leave

Some of you may have noticed that Mrs Watson hasn't been here recently. She is currently on long term leave. We have adjusted the support for 3P to account for this.



### PPA Time

All teachers are entitled to PPA time (Planning, preparation and assessment) and this has previously been covered by Mrs Lloyd, Mrs Rutland and Mrs Fowler. In January it will now be taught by one of our new sports coaches, a specialist Spanish teacher and Mrs Fowler. As our existing staff have so much music knowledge, we will still maintain our music focus.



### Music

Mrs Pyatt takes over as music lead in the school but continues to be class teacher in 5P. She is an experienced musician and is very keen to share her skills. The music service will be providing recorder lessons to year 3 later in the year and we are also exploring an instrument option for year 5. Year 4 will cease steel pans in February as they will have had half a year of tuition.



### League Tables

We found out yesterday that we have been placed in the top 1000 schools in the country, according to the government league tables. The local press have already contacted us. Hopefully we will appear in the Watford Observer soon!



### Tweet of the day

Mr Stanley has been working on our daily tweets. If you are not on twitter then maybe this is the time to sign up. So far this week we have tweeted about the concerts, the library, the league tables, the Christingle and the Christmas party.



### Library

Our new library shelves have been fitted in the school entrance. Three parents have been helping to sort and move the books over the last few weeks, they are Mrs Hancock, Ms Cerrada and Mrs Ilyas. They have been fantastic and very generous with their time.



### Clubs

Other than the new pre and after school club, there won't be any clubs or music lessons in the first week of term. With changes in the admin team and registers to compile we need some time to accurately prepare for the clubs at the start of term. Thanks for your patience with this.



### Friday Snacks

Several members of the school council have raised concerns over the 'free choice' snack on a Friday. Their main concerns were the size of some snacks, the abundance of chocolate, the increased amount of litter and most importantly the number of nut based snacks. As a result and after some consideration we have decided to remove the free choice of snack on a Friday. Snacks are supposed to be fruit or vegetables. January is a great time to focus on a healthy diet so we will start then. School council members are producing reminders to display around the school.



### Parking

Whilst I did not apply for the job of parking warden many of you have thanked the school for trying to help with the parking issues. I have been delighted to see so many parents supporting us with our safer driving and parking around the school. We are in contact with the parking office, the police and the local council. Both schools are now full so we have more cars than ever dropping children each day. Please help us to keep the traffic flowing safely. You can help by politely reminding other parents to park safely.



### Colosseum Concerts

This week the Year 5 choir have performed at two concerts at the Colosseum in Watford. We have had some fantastic feedback from parents and the public. One member of the public emailed in to say, *'They are a real tribute to you and your school. Also how well behaved they were during the concert when not singing. They really were the stars of the show!'*

Our Year 5 Choir children are:-

William H, Rhea S, Freya T, Daniel C, Louisa M, Taha R, Scarlett C, Brooke C, Aarav A, Devani O, Jacob T, Koushik V, Oscar T, Sam S, Jason R, Alexandra B, Neysa C, Oliver L, Rebecca M, Shivam P, Nuisha M, Arya D, Kieran M, Simran M, Maisie H, Aaditi P, Francesca P, Mia M, James H, Myuri K, Yuqi D, Emily B, Hollie M, Matilda S and Maja J.

Our thanks go to Mrs Lloyd and Mrs Harrison for the time they put into these performances.



### Autumn term

As we reach the end of this term I would like to thank the staff, pupils, governors and parents for being so welcoming. This is a lovely school with many strengths to build on. As ever if you have any feedback or suggestions then please feel free to come in and see me or contact me via the school office.



### Thank you

Thank you to everyone who attended the Year 5 Christingle Services, to those who helped walk the children to and from the school and to those who helped at the Year 3 and 4 Christmas party this week.

Have a lovely Christmas break.

Best wishes

Jenny Sherry