

Newsletter 8
Friday October 21st

Dear Parents and Carers,



Secondary School Admissions

Please be aware that the closing date for secondary applications is 31st October.



Mock Transfer Tests

I have arranged for Mock Transfer Tests to present at the school on Wednesday 9th November at 6.30pm in the main school hall. This is a local company that advises, coaches and prepares children for secondary transfer tests. They will share a presentation for parents advising on the secondary transfer process and then explain what tutoring options they have. This presentation is aimed at Year 5 parents but Year 4 parents may find it useful.



Fire Service CPR

This week the local fire service were in school teaching the Year 6 pupils about CPR first aid. This is part of a local initiative to improve the health and welfare of Watford.



Croxley Danes

Many of you will have been pleased to hear that Hertfordshire have confirmed the site for the Croxley Danes school. The school will be housed on the Clement Danes site whilst the permanent building is constructed.



Diwali

I am aware that Diwali is on Monday 31st of October. If you are planning to celebrate then please phone the school in advance so that the registers are correct. Enjoy your day!



Children in Need

Children in Need is on Friday 18th November this year. To celebrate the day, the children will be able to wear non-school uniform for a donation. If children want to increase their fundraising by wearing fancy dress for sponsorship, then this would be great.



Lost property

I am delighted to hear that the unclaimed shoes from lost property will find a new home with a refugee charity. Any unclaimed uniform will also have to go. All lost property is checked for names so that we can return it. If any parent is interested in sorting second hand uniform so that we can sell it then please let the office know and we will provide you with tea, chocolate and a huge thank you!



Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy

We are trialling a new behaviour policy after half term. This is designed to support the staff and pupils to reward good behaviour and sanction unacceptable behaviour within clear guidelines. A significant number of parents, noted in the parent survey, that they would like the school to deal with bullying and behaviour issues in a better way and we hope that this will support this. Mr Stanley and I will share a presentation on the policy on Wednesday 2nd of November at 6pm in the main hall. Please come and join us.



Big Me Day

Many thanks to Mrs Drucker for organising the 'Big Me' day last week. Your contributions raised a massive £269 on the day.



Golden Pupils

Many of the pupils have impressed us this week; Connie, James, Arthur, Eli, Hannah and Riyaan in Year 3, Harry, Amina, Taha, Freya, Alexandra and Matty in Year 5, Eleanor W, Nathan, Somitha, Victoria O, Amit and Riya in Year 4 and Sophie, Maisie, Julia, Josh G, Archie and Amina in Year 6. A special mention goes to Stanley in year 4 for his excellent presentation in his books!



A few changes

It is always a challenge, when a new headteacher starts a school, to maintain a balance between change and stability. I thought that you might appreciate a summary of some of our current projects.

- Library- the children will have new libraries in the lower school block and the 'well' area of the upper school. Our librarian has been off for a while but should be back soon. The staff had some fun ordering bright furniture and bean bags to make the areas bright and fun.
- Clubs- we are meeting with a range of providers to improve the offering of before and after school clubs. We will update you soon.
- Classrooms- we are currently ordering new materials and resources for teachers and classrooms which should brighten up lessons and rooms.
- Playground- Mr Stanley has met with the school council about improving the climbing equipment for the playground. We will apply for lottery funding to support this.
- Languages- we are meeting with some specialist language teachers so that we can improve the quality and range of modern foreign languages provided in the school during lesson time.
- Website- this is under construction!

None of these things happen overnight but more should be evident over the next few weeks. Don't forget to check your curriculum newsletters to see when your child has a class assembly.

Have a lovely half term break.

Kind regards

Jenny Sherry