

Dear Parents,

#### OUR CHILDREN'S SAFETY

Many of you will be aware that one of our children was knocked down while crossing the High Street on the way to school earlier this week. Her injuries included a broken arm and some pretty severe bruising to the face and head but we are all very thankful that she was not more badly hurt.

We couldn't have a more powerful reminder that we all need to take extra special care when driving and parking near the school. In the morning rush, it is easy to think that we can risk parking in an unsafe place, or perhaps dashing up Clinton Hill in a bid to get our children to school on time. However, if like me, you had sat with an injured child waiting for the ambulance to arrive, you might think twice about your actions. So, PLEASE leave yourself plenty of time to park well away from the lowered kerb crossing, the junction of Clinton Hill and the High Street, and the junction of The Meads and the High Street.

Incidentally, 'The Highway Code' says that you must not stop or park:

- ♣ near a school entrance
- ♣ opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space
- ♣ opposite (if this would cause an obstruction) another parked vehicle
- ♣ at or near a bus stop
- ♣ anywhere you would prevent access for Emergency Services
- ♣ in front of an entrance to a property
- ♣ where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair users and powered mobility vehicles

I have asked PC Clifton, our local PC, to place parking cones at the Clinton Hill/High Street junction to act as a reminder to drivers.

I think we would all be happier if there was a pedestrian crossing in the High Street. The school has had numerous conversations with local councillors and Surrey Highways department on this issue over the past few years. I understand that plans were drawn up for a crossing a few years ago and funding was set aside for it, but the plans were not put in place because of objections by some local businesses. In the past, the council have told me that, having got to this point and had the plans rejected locally, they are not prepared to look at this matter again in the near future. Please do make your views known to your local councillors. In the meantime, however, let all of us - parents, local residents and school staff alike - show greater consideration when parking and driving near the school and follow 'The Highway Code' advice.

#### AFTER SCHOOL CHILDCARE

The response to the recent survey showed that there was a considerable increase in interest in after school childcare, particularly from our Key Stage 1 and Early Years parents. For us to proceed with our feasibility study, we now need to have a firm commitment from parents who would be interested in using it. Clearly, we are not talking about signing contracts here, but rather an expression of a firm intention to take up this service. Depending on the response that we receive, we would need to apply for start up grants and employ the appropriate staff, and therefore the very earliest that this could be in place would be January 2010. The provision needs to be self-financing,

and we anticipate that the cost will be in the region of £3.50 - £4.00 per hour, depending on the take up of the service. The service will run from 3.15 pm to 5.45 pm and you would be able to book by the hour.

If you are sure that you would like to use after school childcare, please complete and return the form at the end of this letter.

#### SUMMER FAIR

I would like to say a huge thank you to every one who contributed to the success of the Summer Fair. It was a well attended, very enjoyable event and the 'Seaside' theme really helped everything to go with a swing. The PTA raised an incredible £3,000 which means that we are now working hard on our wish list of items to make children's time at Dormansland even better.

#### "THE KEYMASTER"

Don't delay in getting your tickets for Dormansland's latest musical extravaganza. If you think that history is boring, then this is the show that will change your mind! Events from 1066 to 2059 are presented in a way you've never seen before and all set to fabulous music! Tickets are now on sale from Chequer Mead Theatre, priced £7.00, for the performance on 16th July at 7.30 pm. Refreshments will be available from the bar before the performance and during the interval.

If you have very young children whom you would like to bring with you to watch, please buy a ticket for the afternoon dress rehearsal, available from the school office, priced £3.50 for adults, children free. Infant children will have the chance to see the performance at the dress rehearsal in the afternoon. Please remember to collect your children from the theatre at 3.15pm on 16th July!

#### HOT WEATHER

I really hesitate to write this section, as it will almost certainly be the kiss of death to any decent weather this summer! If the weather is hot and sunny, please ensure that your child brings a hat to school (they won't be allowed out to playtimes if they don't) and that you have put some sunscreen on them before they come to school. They should also have a bottle of water with them to keep them hydrated during the day.

#### DORMANSLAND CARNIVAL

The PTA have already written to you about taking part in the school float for this year's carnival, which is on a seaside theme. Do please join in if you can – we have a 'Best Float' title to defend!

Yours sincerely

Mrs Jane Cowley  
Headteacher