

Dear Parents,

As we end our school year, I would like to thank everyone connected with the school for the support they have given us over the year. Whether it's hearing your child read on a regular basis at home, helping them with their homework, coming into school or supporting PTA events, it all makes a huge difference to your children, so, on their behalf - THANK YOU!!

CHEQUER MEAD PERFORMANCE

Last Thursday we enjoyed a fantastic performance of 'The Keymaster' at the Chequer Mead Theatre. The children gave a wonderful performance to an admiring audience of parents and friends. Thank you to everyone for all your kind comments about the show.

As always, the performance gives our children a high point to remember Dormansland by. Thanks to Mr. Pritchard and the whole staff team who made the performance possible as well as to all of you who supported us so well with costumes, props and lifts to the theatre.

A CD-rom with photographs of the performance is available from the school office at a cost of £4.

DORMANSLAND CARNIVAL

Once again this year, the Dormansland Carnival was a great success. The children were delighted to win a prize for the school (for the third year running) in the competition for 'Best Interpretation of Theme' with their float. Thank you to all the parents who organized the entry, accompanied the float, and provided the costumes.

GOOD TEST RESULTS

We were very pleased with our test results this year. 35% of the children in our Year 6 class have some degree of special educational need, so the class's test results are a great credit to all the children and their teachers. Level 4 is the expected level for children at the end of Year 6. In the table below, the results in the shaded rows are the 2008 national results (the most recent available comparison) and the results in the clear rows are for the school.

Key Stage 2 Test results

Percentage at each level

Below

level 3 3 4 5

English (school) 10 10 34 45

English (national) 6 13 51 30

Reading (school) 10 7 17 66

Reading (national) 6 6 38 49

Writing (school) 10 14 41 34

Writing (national) 6 26 48 20

Mathematics (school) 7 14 38 41

Mathematics (national) 5 15 47 31

Science (science) 3 3 31 62

Science (national) 2 8 44 44

At Key Stage 1, the children's progress is assessed by the teacher. Here again, we are pleased with the results. Level 2 is the expected level for children at the end of Key Stage 1 and once again, the results in the shaded rows are the 2008 national results (the most recent available comparison) and the results in the clear rows are for the school.

Key Stage 1 Teacher Assessments

Percentage at each level

W 1 2 3

Speaking and listening (school) 0 4 48 48

Speaking and listening (national) 2 11 65 21

Reading (school) 0 4 49 48

Reading (national) 3 13 59 25

Writing (school) 0 7 74 19

Writing (national) 5 15 68 12

Mathematics (school) 0 4 52 44

Mathematics (national) 2 8 68 21

Science (science) 0 4 44 52

Science (national) 2 9 67 22

W represents the pupils who are working towards a Level 1, but have not yet achieved the standards needed for Level 1.

GOODBYES

Of course, now is the time of year when we say goodbye to the children in Year 6 who have completed their primary education with us. This year's class is going to various local secondary schools and we are sure that they will continue to work hard, do well and uphold the good attitudes to work and behaviour that we have taught them at Dormansland. We would like to wish them all good luck and look forward to hearing about their achievements in the future.

Sadly, we are also saying good bye to many families as their youngest child leaves Dormansland this year, including: the Alfreys, the Andrews, the Barnes, the Cartledges, the Eburns, the Gabrielides, the Halfords, the Normans, the Pococks, the Robinsons, the Safferys, the Sharps, the Taylors (Amie's family) and the Underhills. Thank you to all of them for their support for the school over the past years.

PARENTMAIL

If you have not already sent in your contact details for Parentmail, please return them to school at the start of next term – we don't want anyone to be left off our contact list!

SCHOOL LUNCHESES – important!!

A reminder that all school lunches must be paid for in advance.

Surrey County Council does not allow us to extend credit for school lunches, so without payment we are unable to provide your child with a meal and will have to ring you up and ask you to bring in a packed lunch for them.

To ensure that your child gets their lunch on the first day back in September, please make your payment in advance online at:
www.surreycc.gov.uk/schoolmeals

It really helps Mrs Lowe if you can make your payment online, but if you are unable to do so, we are happy to take a cheque on the first day back at school.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

If you are buying school uniform over the holidays, may I remind you that

- ♣ school shoes should have flat heels and have a strap or laces;
- ♣ cardigans are not allowed: both boys and girls should wear school sweatshirts;
- ♣ shorts should be knee length or shorter.

SCHOOL STATIONERY & EQUIPMENT

Even before the end of term, the shops are full of their “Back to school” offers! For the infant classes and year 3, we supply all the pens and pencils etc. that your child needs, so there is no need to succumb to all those special offers!

Please do not send in your child with a pencil case or other stationery items to infant classes and Year 3.

In Years 4, 5 and 6, we encourage the children to develop the ability to look after their own equipment themselves and have it ready for each lesson. If your child is in these year groups, this is what they need to bring with them to school:

Pencil case (small enough to fit into their tray), spare Berol handwriting pen in black, spare HB pencil, small 15 cm ruler, 1 highlighter pen, rubber, barrel pencil sharpener and (optional) colouring pencils.

Please do not send in felt tip pens, gel pens, compasses, protractors, calculators, etc.

We supply all the junior children with a new pen and pencil each half term. If they lose or break them, it is their responsibility to replace them. As during this year, replacement pens and pencils will be available at cost from the school shop, which opens every Friday lunchtime.

The shop also offers a small range of other stationary items, such as pencil cases, glue sticks, rulers, pencil sharpeners, etc. at well below shop prices. We shall be open for business on the first Friday of term, so you may prefer to save money by delaying some purchases until then!

EARRINGS and JEWELLERY

The very strict guidelines issued by Surrey County Council do not permit children wearing earrings to

take part in any PE or swimming activities. This means that during the first six weeks after a child's ears have been pierced, when previously children had been allowed to put tape over their earrings, the guidance now says that they cannot take part in PE or swimming lessons at all.

So, if you are considering having your child's ears pierced, please have this carried out at the beginning of the summer holiday, so that by the time they return to school they are able to take part in PE lessons.

Children must be able to remove and/or replace their own earrings.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

The "Red Card" with key dates for next year has already been sent out. Further dates for next term will be sent out in September – less chance to lose them over the summer holidays!!

Finally...

Next term starts for the children on Thursday, 3rd September. (The school is closed for a staff training day on 2nd September.) I would like to wish you and your family a happy and relaxing summer holiday. Have fun!

Yours sincerely

Mrs. J. Cowley
Headteacher