

Dear Parents,

MAY FAIR

A last reminder that our May Fair is tomorrow from 11 am to 1.00 pm. Please bring your children along to support the school and to help the PTA to raise funds for an all weather trim trail. There will be a full range of stalls and arena events, with many new ideas this year. If you haven't managed to send in a cake to school today, the cake stall is very happy to accept cakes brought to the fair on the day. Looking forward to seeing you all there!

INSET DAY REMINDER

Our last INSET day closure for the year is on Friday 25th May, when teachers will be working on assessment.

MORNING ROUTINES – IMPORTANT!

We have made some changes to our morning routines to ensure the children's safety when they arrive in school. From 8.40 am onwards, the school is responsible for the safety of all children on site, so it is essential that we can supervise them properly.

Difficulties had arisen because some parents had got into the habit of coming onto the main playground in the mornings, which made it impossible for the teachers on duty to see if the children were playing safely on the main playground. Parents standing on the path by the flagpole made it impossible to see if children were trying to make their way back out of school.

So, please try to help us by:

- Saying goodbye to your child on the red tarmac and sending them round to the main playground as soon as you arrive at school.
- Ensuring that your child is on the main playground by 8.50 am at the latest.
- If you want to wait until your child goes into the classroom, please stand on the red tarmac or on the grass well back from the path, so that teachers have clear view of the path.
- If you come to the Clinton Hill gate, and want to wait until your child goes into class, please stand outside the gate – parents standing in front of the gate mean that we cannot see if a child is leaving.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation. In putting together these routines we have, like you, the safety and well-being of your children at heart.

SPORTS WEEK

The last week before half term is our Healthy Schools Sports Week. We are putting on a special range of activities this week to raise the profile of being active with the children. Highlights include teacher-led (Mrs Lakhani and Mrs Stirrat, if you want to know!) aerobics sessions with all the junior children, a skipping workshop for everyone, extra PE sessions and a football skills day. Since we shall be doing lots of extra physical activity, for this week only children may wear their normal school polo shirt and sweatshirt with tracksuit bottoms or sports shorts (not jeans shorts or fashion shorts) and trainers or plimsolls every day through the week.

HOMEWORK QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you to everyone who took the trouble to respond to our homework questionnaire. It was fantastic to hear from so many of you! We had such a large number of responses that I am still analysing them, but I promise to let you know the results in the next newsletter.

WALKING BUS

Sadly, no one has come forward to take up the post of walking bus co-ordinator described in last month's newsletter. Just to remind you, here is the article again:

If you are fed up with the problem of trying to find somewhere to park when you drop off and collect your children at school, we have found the answer to your problems. We have been lucky enough to secure a grant to set up a walking bus, which could start running from next half term. For those of you who were wondering, a walking bus is a supervised group of children walking in a crocodile to school. The aim would be for parents to drop off or collect children at a convenient point in the village, from where they would be escorted to school. Using the walking bus would save parents time and trouble as they would no longer have to battle to find a parking place and would have the added benefit of the children getting some exercise and fresh air.

The grant will pay a salary for a walking bus administrator, whose job it would be to ensure that there are always enough adults to accompany the children safely and that we have an up to date register of children using the walking bus.

If you have a couple of hours to spare a week, are committed to reducing the parking problems around the school as well as promoting a greener means of travel, please get in touch with me to find out more.

I do hope that one of you will come forward. It seems such a shame to have to return the £1,000 grant to the Department for Education because we cannot use it. This could be a real opportunity to make a huge improvement to the parking situation around the school.

ART WEEK

The first week back after half term is Art Week, when we suspend our normal curriculum to give the children an opportunity to spend extended time on art and creative projects. We shall be mounting an art exhibition at 2.45 pm on Friday, 8th June when you are invited to come and see the work the children have been doing over the week. Do come along – you won't be disappointed by the quality of the work produced in every class.

OUR SUMMER PRODUCTION

Prepare to be whisked away to the exotic east for this year's performance of "Scheherazade", a musical adaptation of the tales of the Arabian nights. The performance will take place in the evening on Thursday, 19th July at the Chequer Mead Theatre in East Grinstead.

Putting on a performance such as this involves a huge effort on everyone's part and if you are able to help in any way with costumes, scenery or props, please contact me, Miss Bubb or Mr. Pritchard.

As last year, Junior children only will take part in the evening performance, although the infant

children will come to the dress rehearsal in the afternoon on 19th July. Further details of arrangements will follow after half term.

PAYING FOR SCHOOL LUNCHES

Please note that all school lunches should be paid for in advance. Please don't embarrass our lovely office staff by making them remind you about payments.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Jane Cowley
Headteacher

REMINDERS

Please send your children to school equipped for whatever the weather may throw at us! They still need coats for playtimes when the weather is showery or chilly, but they also need to have a hat when it is sunny.