

Sunnymede Snippets - September 2015

Latest News

Welcome back to a new academic year and, in particular, our new year three pupils and parents. The children are quickly learning the new routines and developing their independence. This life skill is an important part of their development as they progress through junior school, as we encourage them to take on increasing responsibility for their behaviour, their attitude to learning, their belongings and how they manage their time. They have made an excellent start and we are very proud of them!

We welcome Mrs Bicheno, Mr Bigland and Mr Tait to the teaching team, along with three new Learning Support Assistants, Mrs Haile, Mrs McArdell and Mrs Holland; they all add something new to the Sunnymede team.

We are delighted to tell you that Mrs Houghton gave birth to a bouncing baby boy, Luke Charles, on 10th September. Both Mum and baby are doing well and we are hoping for a visit soon! We are waiting to hear from Mrs Bremeyer with some more baby news soon!

It was lovely to see so many parents and carers at the year group 'Meet The Teacher' sessions at the start of term. We hope you found them useful. At the meeting, you should have been given a copy of the autumn term newsletter for your year group, a copy of the end of year objectives children are expected to achieve by the end of the year, along with a word list they are expected to be able to read and spell. These are all available to download in the 'Curriculum' area of the school website if you were unable to attend the meeting.

Please read on for more news and a list of all the diary dates for the autumn term to date.



Did you know...

Issue 37



Upcoming Events

- ◆ **23rd Sept 1.30 pm:** PTA annual general meeting
- ◆ **29th Sept 8.00 am:** Individual and family photographs
- ◆ **1st Oct:** Harvest food packages for Hamelin House
- ◆ **2nd Oct:** Library themed House morning
- ◆ **5th Oct:** Y6 Bikeability group 1 begins
- ◆ **6th Oct:** Y3 trip to Billericay High Street
- ◆ **7th Oct:** Flu immunisations
- ◆ **8th Oct:** PTA Film Club

Read on for all autumn diary dates



that there have been a few changes to some of our policies and we have a new policy setting out our procedures for administering medicine in school time. Please take time to read this policy on our school website and note that we have a new form which must now be used if you would like to request any medication to be given. This replaces the old form and can be obtained from the school office or on the school website (key letters and forms section). Appendix 2 of the policy sets out guidance on how long a pupil should be absent from school following common childhood illnesses and infections. In, particular, please note that children must stay off school for 48 hours after last bout of vomiting or diarrhoea (this is 24 hours after last bout plus 24 hours recovery time).

We have also made a change to our Homework Policy. From now on, ALL homework will be set on a Friday. The homework poster has been updated to reflect this and is also available on the website (Letters and Forms section).

Visit our website for lots more information and photos

www.sunnymede-jun.uk.org





Secondary School Applications

Parents of all pupils now in year six should have received an information pack from Essex County Council about the process for applications to secondary schools. **THE DEADLINE DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 31st OCTOBER 2015.** Further information can be found at http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Admissions/Documents/Secondary_Admissions_Brochure.pdf



As you know, last year our children really enjoyed making links with Asamang Roman Catholic School in Ghana.

In recognition of our work in this area, we are delighted that our school has just been awarded the **International Schools Award (ISA)** at Intermediate level. This is an accreditation scheme run by the British Council for curriculum-based international work in schools. The scheme provides recognition for

teachers and their schools working to instill a global dimension into the learning experience of all children, helping them to appreciate and respect diversity. This is a key part of the National Curriculum for schools and we are delighted to have joined many other schools in achieving this award.



We are always looking to improve the learning environment for the children and this summer has been no exception. Within the school, the lower school corridor, which was looking rather gloomy, has been decorated throughout, with all the carpet replaced and some new display boards and pegs installed.

Controlled access to our school via The Meadoway has been achieved through the installation of electronic gates for both cars and

pedestrians. This has made our site more secure and safe for the pupils.

Some structural works in the school hall have been carried out, with timber pillars replaced by steel posts. The low brick wall at the Mons Avenue entrance to the school has been repaired and the school has had a deep clean throughout.

Believe me, the school never goes to sleep over the summer break!



The PTA Annual General Meeting (AGM) will take place on **Wednesday 23rd September at 1:30pm in the community room.**

There are lots of activities being planned for the forthcoming year and the more people who can attend the better. Sadly, the recent PTA 'Bounce' event had to be postponed due to bad weather. However, please check out other PTA dates later in this newsletter for more events this term.

PTA email: sunnymedepa@gmail.com. **Please note that this email is for communication about PTA events ONLY.** Any other queries should be directed to the school e.g. queries about extra-curricular clubs, issues in the community etc. as they are not related to the PTA in any way.

What's new on our website?

- ◆ **Policies:** A number of key policies have been updated, including the Homework and Behaviour policies. Our new Medicine policy is also available in this section and we encourage you to do read it
- ◆ We have added a new **'Letters and Key Forms'** tab: as well as some key letters being uploaded here, you can also find key forms you may need throughout the year (**leave of absence request form, request to administer medication form; end of day exiting request update form, homework poster**)
- ◆ **Curriculum tab:** year group curriculum overviews, end of year objectives for each year group and key word lists for each year group are now more easily accessible through this tab.
- ◆ **Governors' tab:** this new tab contains statutory information about our governing body, along with their most recent newsletter
- ◆ **Gallery pictures:** pictures from the Mad Hatter's tea party and the year six production of *Alice in Wonderland* have been uploaded. Please take a look!
- ◆ **Autumn term menus** and autumn term extra-curricular **clubs information** are also on the website
- ◆ **Class pages:** these have been set up for the new classes and information will be added shortly (Year Group tab).



Is your child eligible for Free School Meals?

If you think you might be entitled to free school meals, please apply through Essex County Council. To be eligible you must be receiving one of the following:

- ⇒ *income support or income-based Job Seekers Allowance*
- ⇒ *Child Tax Credit with an annual taxable income of less than £16,190 (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit*
- ⇒ *Pension Guarantee Credit;*
- ⇒ *income-related Employment and Support Allowance;*
- ⇒ *support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.*

For further information and to apply please visit <http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Pupil-Parent-Support/Pages/Healthy-Living-School-Meals>

If your child is eligible for free meals, please still apply even if your child has packed lunch. If you qualify, additional funds may be available to help with additional costs e.g. school trips, additional support. There is no sharing of information about who is eligible for free meals and such information will held in the strictest confidence.



Our year six pupils have been getting very excited about their residential trip to Kingswood outdoor adventure centre in West Runton, on the north Norfolk coast.

The wait is over and they are reported to be in high spirits and looking forward to an exciting range of activities such as abseiling, bouldering, archery, fencing, swimming, zip wires, quad bikes and orienteering. We look forward to hearing about their action packed adventures in the coming days!

Well done to all these children who have received a Headteacher's Award this month	Class 3K Amber Cummins Jasper Ramsey	Class 3M Maisie Flack Luke Taylor	Class 4B Mackenzie Walsh Finley Chalkley	Class 4H Joe Harper Skye Hawker
	Class 5C Preston Makanza Sonny Pullen	Class 5H Tyler Cannon Ethan Chappell	Class 5T Jamie Groom Lily Strudwick	Class 6B Macy West All of 6B shared award!
			Class 6M Jessie Kam Denys Mishnov Emma Norman	

Congratulations to our house captains for the next academic year. They were voted for democratically by their year six peers. They are:

- SCHOOL COUNCIL** **MAYFLOWER:** Emma Norman and Ben Pourrat
- SCHOOL COUNCIL** **MARTIN:** Molly Pushman and Lewis Whappington
- SCHOOL COUNCIL** **PILGRIM:** Francesca Wain and Vlad Mykhailov
- SCHOOL COUNCIL** **CHANTRY:** Lauren Chown and Ben Chapman

All pupils new to the school should have been allocated to one of the above houses. Please ask the class teacher if you are unsure which house your child is in.

A number of monitors have also been appointed and they are already carrying out their duties with maturity and enthusiasm. Well done monitors; keep up the hard work!

Our School Council members held their first meeting last Friday. A boy and girl from each class were voted for by their classes to represent them and make sure their voices are heard. See below for those voted for in each class.

At the first meeting, the council members voted to re-name the school council the 'PUPIL PARLIAMENT' as they thought it sounded more Important! This year our 'members of parliament' will be developing 'pupil voice' across the school, feeding back to the Headteacher the pupils' views on different aspects of school. Watch this space!

Class	Girl	Boy
3K	Kyra Moffatt	Harry Dean
3M	Sadie Cunningham	Evan Risby
4B	Annie Grimes	Luke Pitchers
4H	Stacie Longhurst	Joe Efreme
5C	Freya Ramsay	Preston Makanza
5H	Ruby McGinn	Ryley Earp
5T	Corin Southwood	Harrison Aylott
6B	Phoebe Eades	Vlad Mykhailov
6M	Issy Pourrat	Rishi Suresh





EVENTS

Below are the dates of key events in the school calendar. Please check newsletters, Parentmail updates or ask at the school office if you are unsure.

Date	Time	Event
Mon 21 st Sept	AM	Y6 to Kingswood residential (West Runton)
Weds 23 rd Sept	1:30 pm	PTA Annual General Meeting—Junior School community room
Thurs 24 th Sept	9:30-12:00	Cross-Country competition
Tues 29 th Sept	8.00am	Individual & Family Group Photos
Thurs 1 st Oct	All day	Harvest singing assembly—please send in tinned / packet foods for Hamelin House
Fri 2 nd Oct	AM	International School library House Morning (children to wear house coloured t-shirts)
Mon 5 th Oct	12:45-2:45	Y6 Bikeability - Group 1
Tues 6 th Oct	12:45-2:45	Y6 Bikeability Group 1
Tues 6 th Oct	AM	Y3 trip to Billericay High Street and Waitrose
Weds 7 th Oct	12:45-2:45	Y6 Bikeability Group 1
Weds 7 th Oct	AM	Flu immunisations – AM
Weds 7 th Oct	TBC	Y5 / 6 Basketball Tournament
Thurs 8 th Oct	12:45-2:45	Y6 Bikeability Group 1
Thurs 8 th Oct	3:15 pm	PTA Film Club
Friday 9 th Oct	10:30 pm	Class 4H parents invited to celebration assembly
Friday 9 th October	PM	House Sports afternoon (children to wear house coloured top, preferably long sleeved)
Mon 12 th Oct	12:45-2:45	Y6 Bikeability 12:45-2:45 Group 2
Thurs 15 th Oct	12:45-2:45	Y6 Bikeability Group 2
Fri 16 th Oct	6:30-8:00	PTA Disco
Mon 19 ^h Oct	12:45-2:45	Y6 Bikeability Group 2
Tues 20 th Oct	2:00 PM	PTA Meeting – (at Infant school)
Tues 20 th Oct	All day	Y3 trip to Roding Valley
Thurs 22 nd Oct	12:45-2:45	CVL Y5 Boys' football
Fri 23 rd Oct	12:45-2:45	Bikeability Group 2
W/C 26 th Oct		HALF TERM
Sat 31 st Oct		Deadline date for secondary transfer applications
Mon 2 nd Nov	N/A	Deadline date for secondary school applications to Essex County Council
Fri 6 th Nov	AM	Y3 trip to Norsey Woods
Fri 6 th Nov	All Day	Y4 trip to West Stow (re-scheduled from 14 th October)
Mon 6 th Nov	9:00 am	Parent in Partnership
Tues 10 th Nov	4:00-6:00	Open Evening

Scroll to next page for more dates...

Date	Time	Event
Weds 11 th Nov	11:00 AM	Armistice Day – 2 minutes' silence
Thurs 12 th Nov	5:00-8:00	Open Evening
W/C Mon 16 th Nov	N/A	Xmas pudding orders throughout this week via the PTA
Tues 17 th Nov	PM	Local vicar to visit Y3 pupils
Weds 18 th Nov	AM	Author visit -Emma Carroll (Years 4,5,6)
Thurs 19 th Nov	2:00 pm	PTA Meeting—Junior School
Fri 20 th Nov	10:30 am	Class 5H parents invited to Celebration Assembly
Tues 24 th Nov	AM	Y3 trip to Little Burstead Church
Tues 24 th Nov	PM	CVL netball
Thurs 26 th Nov	All Day	Y5 Trip to Shakespeare's Globe Theatre
Fri 27 th Nov	10:30 am	Class 5C parents invited to Celebration Assembly
Weds 2 nd Dec	3:30 pm	PTA Xmas Fair
Thurs 3 rd Dec	N/A	PTA Present Selling (TBC)
Fri 4 th Dec	1:45 pm	Christmas production Dress rehearsal
Fri 4 th Dec	AM	John Baron MP visit to Y6
Fri 4 th Dec	All Day	Bobble Hat day – NSPCC fundraiser
Mon 7 th Dec	2:00 pm	Christmas Production -Grandparents and siblings
Tues 8 th Dec	7:00 pm	Christmas Production
Thurs 10 th Dec	7:00 pm	Christmas Production
Tues 15 th Dec	PM	Girls' Football trials
Thurs 17 th Dec	12:05 pm	Junior Christmas Dinner
Fri 18 th Dec	10:00 am	Carol Service at Emmanuel Church—parents welcome
Fri 18 th Dec	3:15 pm	END OF TERM
Mon 4 th Jan 2016	8:55 am	SPRING TERM BEGINS

Neighbourhood Police Team

Please be advised that the new neighbourhood police officer is PC Sam Rayner (collar number 718). If you have any questions or concerns about local issues affecting residents, she can be contacted on 07969365610 . Local 'Street Meet' meetings are also held regularly in various public spaces around Billericay. You can find out when these meetings are by visiting <http://www.essex.police.uk> ('My neighbourhood' tab)



Thank you

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many parents who have shown their support for their child's school since the start of term; we have received many kind and supportive messages. We are thankful for these and for those parents who have taken the time to come and speak to the Headteacher directly about any issues or concern they may have.

