

NEWSLETTER

Issue 2, Monday 3rd October 2016

Dear Parents, the school term is well under way and I am delighted to say that the children have made a great start in their new year groups and our Reception children have really settled well into school life.

We had a very good response to the Maths Passport meetings that were held recently and any parent that missed this presentation can find all the information they need to support their child at home on our **school website** under the following tabs; 'Learning Zone' then 'Curriculum overviews' then 'Maths' and then 'Maths Passports.' I would like to thank Mrs Hearn our Maths Subject Leader for all her hard work in overseeing the implementation of this initiative across the whole school. Please can we ask you to ensure that the Maths Passport remains in your child's school bag so that it can be accessed by staff to record your child's achievement against the statements. Thank you.

Special Curriculum Day – Wednesday 5th October

This Wednesday we will be marking the **950th anniversary of the Battle of Hastings**. This will be a normal school day and children need to come to school in their school uniform. All classes will be completing activities based on this event and we have decided to link our **sponsored NSPCC** event to this memorable occasion. In order to raise funds for the NSPCC charity, we are participating in 'Buddy's Big Workout'. The challenge is to take part in a physical activity, in exchange for sponsor money. Schools get to choose their own sponsored activity, so at Mereworth on Wednesday we will be marching from York to Hastings! Not literally, of course, but pupils in all year groups will participate in a march around the school building and the school grounds, 'passing through' the various towns Harold travelled through on his journey to the battlefield. We are sure the children will enjoy this activity and ask that you support us please in raising funds for this important charity. Any amount, however small, will be greatly appreciated. There is also a certificate on offer to the class who bring back the most sponsor forms (not the most money), so the children are all very keen to win this.

Our school Value for October is Self-worth. This values gives us the opportunity to focus on the importance of **self-esteem** and **self-respect**. We will focus on this value during October.

PE and Sports Clubs

Please find attached with this Newsletter a list of the After School Sports Clubs that we are running this school year. ***This is for information only and bookings can only be taken when advertised.*** We have a new Sports Company working with the school this year as we were not satisfied with the service of the previous providers. I am delighted to welcome coach Gurdip and his team. Coach Gurdip will be teaching alongside all staff this school year to ensure that we deliver the highest possible standards of PE and Sports education to the children. Every Class Teacher will receive this professional development support and I hope that the children tell you all about their positive PE and sports learning experiences.

At the start of the school year **House Captains** and **Sports Captains** were elected by the children following presentations. I am delighted to announce that the following children were elected:

HURRICANES

HOUSE CAPTAINS

Edward / Olivia

SPORTS CAPTAINS

Ola / Isabelle

MOSQUITOS

HOUSE CAPTAINS

Megan / Tilly

SPORTS CAPTAINS

Jess / Harry

SPITFIRES

HOUSE CAPTAINS

William / Yazmin

SPORTS CAPTAINS

Scarlett / Isabel R

TYPHOONS

HOUSE CAPTAINS

Isabel M / Millie

SPORTS CAPTAINS

Catherine / Ella

Reminders/Important information:

Nut free School

Please can I remind parents not to give their children any food containing 'nuts' as we have children in school that are highly allergic and this could result in a serious and life threatening reaction. Children should not have peanut butter in sandwiches. Thank you for your support.

Fruit or Vegetable snack for Playtime

Children are allowed to bring in fruit and/or vegetables for their mid-morning break, please do not give your child any other snack.

Collection of children at the end of the school day

Please inform us if there is a different adult collecting your child from school, including other parents from the same class. In the interest of your child's well-being and safety, staff should not release a child to another adult unless we have been informed in advance. Thank you.

Late Collection after school

The school day finishes at 3.10pm for KS1 children and 3.20pm for KS2. We ask that all parents call the office and inform us if they are going to be late as soon as possible so that we can pass on this information to the child and Class Teacher. Any child not collected before 3.25pm for KS1 children and 3.35pm for KS2 children will be taken to the After School Care Service and a charge of £5.00 per child will be made.

Parent Helpers

If you are interested in becoming a 'Parent Helper' for hearing readers, supporting the running of our school Library or school Clubs please register your interest with the school office. We are immensely grateful for the support we already receive but welcome any extra support or time that any parent or grandparent can offer the school.

Hearing your child read at home

We place a very high importance on **reading** and particularly the partnership between home and school in establishing a culture of daily reading. All of our pupils have a reading folder and reading journal and we ask that you hear your child read on a regular basis, signing the journal to record that the reading is taking place. This includes all children that are 'free' readers and in Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6. Thank you.



Thank you all for your kind donations.
We collected **260kg** and received a
cheque for **£104!**

FOMS held their annual AGM meeting last week and I am delighted to announce that they have a comprehensive plan of fun events and activities planned for this school year. Please see the school website for more information and dates.

FOMS Film Night: Friday 14th October
FOMS BOOT FAIR: Saturday 15th October

Please can I remind **Year 6 parents that the deadline for secondary school applications is Monday 31st October.** Any parent requiring help on support should see Miss Maryon.

Donate a book on your birthday – We would like to encourage children and parents to donate a favourite book on their birthday for their class. This will be shared with the children and is a great way to support our LOVE OF READING focus and an alternative to bringing in cakes and sweets. Thank you.

Finally I have attached information regarding our **Harvest Festival celebrations** this school year.
Miss Lavelle – Head Teacher