

NEWSLETTER

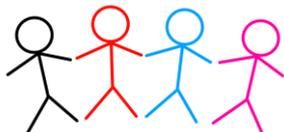
Issue 6, Monday 6th February 2017

Dear Parents, we have had a really good Term 3 with all classes working hard. We have had some classes out on school trips and I have had fantastic feedback from members of the public and people working at the school trip venues contacting our staff to say that our children's behaviour and manners are excellent. Since the beginning of this term we have started a new initiative called '**Courtesy Crusaders.**' Every week we have a **secret spy** (one member of staff) that can nominate two children to celebrate their excellent manners. Children nominated so far are Emilya Y2, Grace Y3, Archie Y1, Elise YR, Maisie Y2, Ryan Y4, Harry Y5, Eddie Y5, Auden Y2 and Deryn Y5. I have certainly noticed all our children making a conscious effort to be polite around the school and this has also been commented upon by school visitors.

Recently every class in the school participated in our special curriculum day focusing on **Global Awareness**. We learnt all about the 17 sustainable development goals agreed by the United Nations. Some classes learnt about caring for the environment and animals, others found out about poverty and education opportunities around the world and other classes found out about healthy living and health issues. Some super work was produced and we all agreed that every single one of us can make a difference and contribute to making the world a better place. The children recorded their pledge onto a label and this is displayed in our school entrance area.

Our school Value for FEBRUARY is friendship.

One way in which we can make our school and community a happy place to live, is through our value of the month and February's focus is 'friendship'. In assemblies and in class, children will be learning all about what makes a good friend, how to treat our friends with love and respect, and why friends are so important.



School Charity and fundraising events:

We have recently been sent an update on three new guide dog puppies we are sponsoring as a school. We have some lovely pictures and information about them, which will be up on display on our Community and Charity display board, opposite the lunch boxes.

I would like to thank you all for your kind donations during the Christmas period. We raised **£126.45** for our **Year 1 outdoor area** (Infant Christmas show) and Mr Belcher has been busy putting up new fencing so that we can buy resources for this new area for learning for our children in Year 1. We also raised **£160.81** (KS2 Carol Concert) for the Charity sponsoring children to be able to go to school in Africa '**Back to School**' project. As a school we will learn how our money is spent and find out about the children that we have sponsored. The school council are also busy planning Red Nose Day on Friday 24th March.

Booking your Parent's Evening Appointment:

A letter went out on Friday explaining that you will be able to book your appointment via our **Teachers2Parents** system. This will open on the first day back after half term for our two Parent Evening days on **Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th March**. It is essential that all parents see their child's class teacher as important information will be shared on your child's progress and attainment and their next steps for development. You will also get to see all your child's workbooks. If you have any questions about the new system please do not hesitate to speak to the school office.

Next term – Term 4: We are fast approaching the end of this term so please see attached the **dates for Term 4** and our **Term 4 CLUBS list**.

I hope that you all have a lovely half term holiday.
Miss Lavelle – Head Teacher

Reminders/Important information:

Post Boxes in the School entrance area: Please can we ask you to drop in any forms, letters or money into the secure boxes as these are checked daily and will help the school office staff at busy times. Thank you.

Parking and stopping on The Street: We all know how busy the roads around the school get, both at drop off and collection times. This can create quite a dangerous situation for the children and parents on foot and those alighting from vehicles. Indeed, there have been some near misses. Can I ask that you drive extra carefully near the school and park properly and legally and consider the effects of where you choose to park on other people and local residents. Please also be aware that residents do reverse out of their driveways and this can make it difficult to see children crossing or on Scooters in front of their drive ways. There was a near miss last week, where a child was not seen in the situation described above and there has been a young child knocked down in the past. I would like you to be mindful of this information as I would not want any child to be hurt. Please think, drive and park carefully. 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.**

Our School website: www.mereworth.kent.sch.uk

Please visit our school website to see all the latest news, photographs, videos and for other information that you might need about the school. We have a wonderful video of our children singing in the *Voice in a Million* concert.

Donate your favourite book on your Birthday: Thank you all for supporting *donate a book on your birthday*, this has been a great success with many children bringing in their favourite book to share with the class. This is a great way to support our LOVE OF READING focus and an alternative to bringing in cakes and sweets.



Thank you to FOMS for organising *Film Night*. This week we are all looking forward to the **Infant and Junior DISCO**.

INFANT Disco: 3.30-5.00pm

JUNIOR Disco: 5.15-7.00pm

This school event is expected to raise £300.00 for the school.

The School Council have recently been planning how to spend some money! FOMS are going to pay for some new trim-trail equipment for the main school playground. The school council members have spent some time selecting equipment they liked for the money available. The class reps then took the short-listed options back to their class for everyone to vote on. The votes are nearly all in now, so we will keep you posted as to the final outcome and look forward to installing this ready for the start of the Summer Term.

If you would like more information, please visit the FOMS page of the school website. Thank you.