

NEWSLETTER

Issue 3, Thursday 1st November 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after half term, and thank you all for your generous donations to our Harvest Celebration. The two charities were extremely grateful for all the goods received.

Term 2 is always an exciting term as we head towards Christmas and we will be busy with many events and activities over the coming weeks (updated Term 2 Dates attached). I look forward to seeing you all at **Parents Evening on Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th November.**

Class Teacher Letters and Topic Information for Term 2 will be sent home tomorrow.

I am delighted to announce that we have purchased 'Mathletics', an **Online Mathematics Learning Resource for home learning.** The children will be taught how to use Mathletics before they start to use it next week as part of their homework activities, **and parents will be invited to come into school on Thursday 22nd November at 2.45pm and Friday 23rd November at 9.00am to find out more.** Your child will be able to use Mathletics at school and at home in addition to completing the homework tasks set by their teacher. It is an excellent resource and reflects the key changes we are making to our homework expectations from the start of this term, following feedback given via the annual questionnaire. 1x English or 1x Maths homework will be set every Wednesday, to be completed by the following Wednesday morning.

Parent Governor Election:

Following the recent parent election and vote, I am pleased to announce that **Mrs Meston** (Year 2 and Year R parent) received the highest number of nominations and will join the School Governing Body. I would like to thank Mr Stones and all the parents for their interest and participation in this process.

Poppies - support the Armed Forces community,

past and present: Poppies will be on sale at school this week and next week, during break time and lunchtime, for suggested donations of up to £1.00. Items available include pencils, rubbers, rulers and pencil sharpeners, as well as wristbands, reflectors, paper poppies and enamel lapel pins.

On Friday 9th November we will be commemorating the centenary of Armistice Day with a variety of learning activities including WWI soldier workshops for all classes. Please send your child to school dressed in the colours of a Poppy on this day. They can either wear all red, all black or a mixture of both. Ideally the colours should be in a block - for example red top and black bottoms, not stripes, spots or logos please.

PE and Sports Newsletter: I hope that you have all received the newsletter that was emailed to you yesterday regarding our PE and sports provision, including our promising start to the inter-school competitions, and information about our **new playground equipment** which the children are really enjoying using. I would like to thank Mr Mitchell for all the time and effort he has put into this project. Children will be able to play on the equipment before and after school, however it is important that when the bell is rung at **3.30pm**, all children and parents leave the school grounds promptly as our After School Club provision and our school clubs will be using the outside area. Thank you for your support and understanding.

Our School Value for NOVEMBER is compassion.

The children will explore how to consider the feelings of others and the importance of empathy and being mindful of others. We will look at the many ways we can show compassion through our actions and words.

Miss Lavelle – Head Teacher

Reminders/Important information

Attendance: Every School Day Counts! – for every child

Please do not take your child out of school during term time for holidays or non-urgent appointments. Not only does it negatively affect their own learning, it also disrupts that of their classmates when extra time has to be spent revisiting activities and topics already completed.

OPEN DAYS 2018 for new Reception Parents

It is that time of year when parents look for a school for their child for **September 2019**. We have arranged our OPEN DAYS and would be grateful if you could help us to promote these. **The dates are: 08.11.18, 15.11.18, 30.11.18, 11.12.18 and 08.01.19.** Flyers are available from the school office and further information is available on our school website. **Please let the office staff know if you have a younger sibling starting school with us in September 2019.**

School dinner payments

Please note that school meals must be paid for in advance; this can be done via SCOPAY. **The Edwards and Ward policy is no money/no meal.**

Maths Passports

You will find useful information and resources on our school website for your child's Maths Passport Learning. Please visit: **LEARNING ZONE / CURRICULUM OVERVIEW / MATHS / MATHS PASSPORTS.**

Parking and stopping on The Street

Please can I remind all parents to drive extra carefully near the school, park properly and legally, and consider the effects of where you choose to park and turn round on other, including local residents. **Please do not stop or drop off children on the ZIG ZAG lines or in the bus stop under any circumstances.** The school gates open at **8.30am** allowing plenty of time to park further up The Street and arrive at school before 8.50am.

Car sharing: Please can we encourage you to car share with friends or neighbours as this will also help to alleviate traffic and congestion, as well as saving you money and time!

We are currently working with **Mereworth Parish Council** to come up with solutions to some of the parking issues, in addition to some ideas generated by the children that we will share with you this term.



Thank you to FOMS for their hard work with the *children's film night*, and with this week's *PUMPKIN competition* that took place this week. Photographs of some the fantastic entries are on the school website.

Autumn dates 2018

Winter Festival & Santa's Grotto

Saturday 1st December 2018 - 12.00-3.00pm

Wreath Making - Adult Event/Evening

Thursday 13th December - 7.00-9.00pm

The WINTER FESTIVAL is on **Saturday 1st December 12.00-3.00pm**. Please support our **non-uniform day** on **Wednesday 28th November** by bringing in *Tombola items* and *old crockery* for the 'Plate Smash' stall. Any help on the day itself, however small, is very much appreciated. The more money we raise, the more we are able to invest in the school for the benefit of all our children. You can help advertise our Winter Festival by putting up a '*Daisylets*' board outside your home. Please ask FOMS for details, as for every board displayed, FOMS will receive £10.00! Thank you all for your support in helping us make Mereworth a great school with the excellent resources our children deserve!

EASY FUNDING: Please register at

www.easyfundraising.org.uk to support the school in raising money every time you shop at a wide variety of stores including AMAZON, JOHN LEWIS, M&S, ARGOS...

Visit the FOMS page of the school website for more information.