



Trotts Hill Primary School

Newsletter

9th September 2016

www.trotts Hill.herts.sch.uk

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back everyone and a special welcome to our new children and families who have joined us this term. We hope that you and your children soon feel part of our school and quickly adjust to new routines in preparation for a happy and successful year ahead. Mrs Shergill and I feel confident about our new roles in school and are grateful for the many words of encouragement and good wishes we have received. Mrs Butterworth has been in regular contact (from the beach in Devon) and will no doubt visit the children before the end of this term.

All staff want to ensure that your child is happy and achieves well and I encourage you to talk to class teachers about any worries or concerns you may have. After school is usually better for teachers as mornings are very busy. Mrs Shergill and I try to make ourselves available in the mornings and are happy to help where we can. However, it is also important to remember that for some children it takes a little while to settle into a new class and for the teachers to get to know them. They need positive encouragement and support from parents to help the transition go smoothly.

Miss Pidgeon
Interim Headteacher

Holidays

We hope that you all had a lovely summer break with your children. We have enjoyed sharing their many and varied experiences.

Currently our 'Wish You Were Here' holiday display is being mounted in the hall and I would like to remind you to send in a postcard or photograph of a place you visited during the summer so that your child can be included. Please pop into the hall and view the display when you can.



Mrs Flack

Unfortunately, Mrs Flack was taken ill with an acute appendicitis at the end of the summer holiday and will return to school when she has fully recovered from her operation. We all wish her a speedy recovery and send her our best. In the meantime, Mrs Mandel and the Foundation Stage team are ensuring our nursery children have a smooth transition and positive start with us.

Goodbye

Sadly Mrs Briars said goodbye to us all today as she leaves to begin her new job on Monday. Mrs Briars has been a very loyal and dedicated School Secretary and a key member of the Trotts Hill team. She has been invaluable to us all and will be sorely missed by everyone. We wish her the very best of luck in her new role thank her for everything she has given to the school.

Attendance

Please may I remind you about the importance of good attendance and its contribution to high achievement. Last academic year our whole school attendance was 96.29% which is a huge improvement on the previous year. Please keep up the good work and try really hard to ensure that your child does not miss school unless they are really poorly.

Punctuality

Please may I also remind you of the importance of punctuality. KS2 lessons will begin promptly after the registers are taken at 8.45am. In KS1, lessons begin after the registers are taken at 8.55am. Please ensure that your morning routines are good and your child does not miss out on important learning. Thank you for your co-operation.



Summer Reading Challenge

If your child has taken part in the Summer Reading Challenge, we would like to celebrate this in school. When your child receives their certificate and medal, please send them into school so that we can share them in assembly.

Summer Holiday Diaries

As soon as your child has completed their holiday diary, please send it into school. Mrs Shergill and I look forward to reading them and know how much work goes into writing them. Please return diaries by Monday 26th September. Certificates and prizes will be given out in assembly at the beginning of October once they have all been read.

Afternoon Tea

Any children who complete both the reading challenge and holiday diary will be invited for afternoon tea with Mrs Shergill and me. We are looking forward to celebrating the achievements of children who made the extra effort over the summer holiday.



School Council

Congratulations to the following pupils who were voted by their classes to become part of the School Council:

- Year 2 Will Amass and Siena Schneider
- Year 3 Kenny Ahmed and Emelyn Abraham
- Year 4 Ben Swain and Sadie Edwards
- Year 5 Jayden Thompson and Noemi Kiss
- Year 6 Jamie Clarke and Emily Hunter

Applying for School Place

Please note the following deadlines for Secondary School and Primary School applications:

Secondary School:
Monday 31st October 2016

Primary/Reception:
Sunday 15th January 2017

Free School Meals/Pupil Premium Funding

I would like to remind parents **who are on income support or jobseekers allowance that you should still register for free school meals** as your child is eligible for pupil premium funding which comes direct to the school to support their learning and development. This can be done by telephone on 0300 123 4048 or on-line via :

<http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/edlearn/canhelp/>

School Meals

Please remember that from September 2016 the cost of school meals increased to £2.30 per day for Nursery children and £2.40 per day for KS2 children (Years 3-6).

All Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are entitled to universal free school meals and I would encourage you to take advantage of this entitlement. School meals are tasty, healthy and nutritious and children are supported and encouraged to try new foods alongside their friends.

Packed Lunches

For the health and safety of all of our children, we ask that you do not include food items containing nuts in your child's lunchbox. Some of our children have severe allergies which can be affected by close proximity to nuts. Thank you for your co-operation.



School Uniform

Thank you for returning your children to school looking very smart in their new uniforms. Please help us to maintain high standards by making sure that they continue to wear items of clothing that fit our uniform guidelines. Navy jumpers or sweatshirts for indoor wear, not hoodies or fleeces please. Also, long hair must be tied back and boys' haircuts should be smart and appropriate for school – no shaved patterns or 'extreme' haircuts please. For health and safety reasons, no jewellery should be worn to school, other than stud earrings for pierced ears.

I would also like to remind you that all children need a PE kit consisting of a plain white t-shirt and navy shorts. Trainers should be suitable for sportswear and not the latest fashion accessory. PE kit should be brought into school at the beginning of the week. PE is an important part of the curriculum and all children are required to participate.

Players Wanted – Bedwell Rangers

Bedwell Rangers Football Club are looking for new players for the Under 8 and Under 9 Girls Football Team. If your child is interested, please contact:

Neil Finch 07985 338356

Bedwellrangersfc@gmail.com

www.bedwellrangersfc.com

Stevenage celebrates 70 Years

Stevenage new town is officially 70 years old this year. The school is taking part in celebrations being organised by the council and Mrs Chumbley has organised a whole school assembly, through Stevenage Museum, for 15th September. As a school we are proud of Stevenage and what it offers to the local community.

Happy Birthday Stevenage!