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SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER



We hope you all had a good summer break - we cannot believe that it is September again already but we're sure you are all pleased! Anyway, welcome back for a new school year and a particularly warm welcome to all of our new children and their families and our new staff. We hope you all settle in quickly and without any problems - don't forget to come and ask any of us if there is something you are worried about.

WELLIES

All children need to have a pair of named wellies in a bag on their peg please, especially as the grass is quite wet in the mornings and we don't want to spoil our carpets with muddy shoes.

SPARE CLOTHES

Each child needs a full set of spare clothes on their peg for emergencies - this could be if they've had a toilet accident, got wet or muddy at playtime, got messy with glue or paint etc. It should be left at school and if used, needs to be replaced the following morning

DRINK BOTTLES

Children in Ben Harvey's, Helen Prophet's and Rachel Ellis' classes need a water bottle at school each day. The other classes have a water fountain.

BIKES AND SCOOTERS

We always encourage our children to walk, bike or scoot to school but please remember that they need to get off their bike or scooter outside the gate and walk with them to the racks which are behind the mobile.

NUT ALLERGIES

Please remember that peanut butter and any peanut products are banned from snacks and packed lunches due to an increasing number of children who have allergies. Of course there are so many products that have a 'may contain nuts' warning so we need you to use your own common sense and if you are in any doubt, please ask.

P.E KIT

Please make sure your child has a P.E kit in school every week. They need a t-shirt and shorts and plim-solls or trainers. Long hair needs to be tied back and ear rings need to be removed or covered with micropore tape or a wide elastic head band which you should provide.

INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR RECEPTION PARENTS

You may recall from the new intake visits back in July that I said that you would be encouraged to attend a parent information session which would give you a greater insight into what your child does at school. Dates for these sessions are below so please choose any one of them and sign up in the classroom:

THURS 6th OCT 1.45 PM

TUES 11TH OCT 9.00 AM

WEDS 12TH OCT 9.00 AM

Each one will last for about an hour and they will take place in the hall.

INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR Y1 PARENTS

Y1 parents are encouraged to sign up for an information session to find out about the Y1 curriculum and how we make sure the transition Reception to Y1 is as smooth as possible.

TUES 18TH OCT 9.00 AM

WEDS 19TH OCT 2.00 PM

Each one will last about an hour and they will take place in the hall.

INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR Y2 PARENTS

Y2 parents are encouraged to sign up for an information session to find out about the difference between Y1 and Y2 and about how we prepare your child for the transition to Junior School.

WES 19TH OCT 9.00 AM

THURS 20TH OCT 2.00 PM

Each one will last about an hour and they will take place in the hall.

Sign up sheets for all of these meetings will go up nearer the time.

OPEN AFTERNOON

We will be having an Open Afternoon on **THURSDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER** from **2-3.30 pm**. The purpose of this is for you to see how your child is settling in - we do it every year and find it to be of great value for parents, children and staff.

Just turn up at any time between 2.00 and 3.30 pm, go to your child's class, have a good look around and have a quick informal chat with the staff. Refreshments will be available in the hall and second hand uniform will be on sale. **Children will not be allowed to leave school early.**

ATTENDANCE

As you should be aware by now, we are not allowed to authorise any holidays during term time unless the circumstances are exceptional. All planned absence during term time should be applied for in writing at least a week before the absence and you will receive a written response. For all holidays of 4.5 days or longer that are not authorised, those parents **must** then be referred to the Local Authority to consider a fixed penalty notice. If a fixed penalty notice is issued, it amounts to a fine of £60 per parent per child.

WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK

Don't forget that all of the information you need about our school is on our website
www.garrickgreen.co.uk

The calendar and newsletter section is no longer password protected so you can easily find out information that you may have forgotten. The calendar for the autumn term is complete and some of the spring and summer dates have already been set if you want to look ahead.

If you click on an item on the calendar it will give you more details of the event.

The newsletter is also always on our Facebook page (Friends Of Garrick Green), together with reminders of different things going on. Please use this page to contact other parents with questions but if you need to speak to a member of staff, please wait until the morning if possible, or check the newsletter or website to see if that answers your question. Not all of our staff members use Facebook and even if they do, I am sure that you can appreciate that they need to switch off from school during the evenings.

DINNERS

As you know all of our children are entitled to a free school meal and children have a choice between a home packed lunch, a school packed lunch with a choice of ham, cheese, tuna for their sandwiches, a cooked school dinner, a cooked school vegetarian dinner or a jacket potato with cheese, tuna or beans.

New Reception children received a new menu during the summer term and Y1 and Y2 children should have got one today. If you can't find it, it is available at the website below.

http://www.ncsgrp.co.uk/catering_educational_catering.htm

There is a copy on Miss Tovell's classroom window and each teacher has a copy in the classroom too.

SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION

Because of our day-to-day contact with the children we are particularly well placed to observe outward signs of abuse, changes in behaviour or failure to develop. We have a duty to protect children from abuse; however, our role is in recognition and referral, not investigation or intervention. We are required by law to follow procedures laid down by the Norfolk Safeguarding Children Board if we see signs which suggest that one of our pupils may have been the victim of abuse. Use of the procedures in this way is an obligation placed on the school by legislation and in no way infers that any parent/carer is being accused of wrong-doing.

READING

As you know, it is essential for children to practise their reading skills at home, if they are to make good progress. Please remember to sign the yellow reading diary every time you listen to your child read, or when you read to them. If they get 3 signatures a week in their diary, they will earn a point towards a certificate. If your child is on a reading book, at least 2 of these signatures should be because your child has read to you, not just you reading to them.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

After School Clubs for children in Year 1 and Year 2 will start the week beginning 12th September. Letters about each club will be issued on Wednesday 7th September and we will be in the hall to take bookings from 8.30 am on Thursday 8th (you do not have to pay on that day, just book places). Initially each child can join one club only but we will have a waiting list for all clubs in case the places are not filled. Places will be issued on a first come first served basis. Forms and payment must be returned to school by FRIDAY 9th SEPTEMBER or the place will go to someone on the waiting list.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Our After School Club runs from 3-6 pm each day during term time and costs £8.00 per day. Places can be booked on a regular basis or just for the odd day here and there – just ring or see Judy in the office for a place.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Apologies for mentioning 'Christmas' this early but we are going to be making Christmas cards right at the beginning of October. On Thurs 13th OCTOBER from 3 – 4 pm you will be able to view these and place any orders. We have to do it this early to guarantee delivery well before the end of term. Further details of prices will follow in the October newsletter.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL SUPERVISION

Before school please make sure that you supervise your child and make sure they do not run, cycle or scoot on the playground. Please make sure your child does not go on the grass at all in the morning.

There is a Teaching Assistant outside on the playground every morning before school if you have any questions, concerns or worries.

VOLUNTEERS

We really value the volunteers that we have in school over the year so if you have a spare hour or two per week on a regular basis, come and talk to us about what you can offer.