



Dear Parents.

A Happy New Year to you and your family!

Changes

A warm welcome to the three families who have children starting in Class One this term. The twins Matilda and Rose Shore, and Marilie Andrealis have already arrived and are settling in well. Oliver Morgan is starting in Week Two. We wish them all the best as they get used to living in our amazing city and area!

Congratulations to Chloe and Matthew Hart on the birth of Edison, a brother to Erin, Mia and Isla. Edison was born on 2nd January.

Future Plans

The Governors have exciting plans for the school over the next few years. They have agreed the 2013-17 Strategic Plan for the school, which will soon be available on our website, or by request. The plans include some exciting projects and I will be sending a letter out this term asking if parents would like to be involved in helping with changes both outdoors and indoors.

Included with this newsletter is a consultation document from the Local Authority concerning our growth. The LA has allocated us the classrooms for seven classes; are keen for us to grow and are following the legal process required to take us to that point.



Siblings starting School

The deadline for admission for September 2013 is midnight **next** Tuesday January 15th. **If you have a child who is due to start school then please ensure you have applied for a place.**

It would be appreciated if you could also let us know if you have a child who is due to start so we can begin to anticipate numbers!



Small World

Class One are very excited about their current topic of 'Explore the Sea' and are in need of small world toys such as Playmobil or sea creature to retell stories with. The topic has evolved from a class passion for the Octonauts so any unwanted Octonauts toys would be gratefully received as well. Please see Mrs Evans or Mrs Kirby!

Class Four in particular, and other classes as well, are keen to recruit new adult volunteers for reading. Is anyone interested in coming in once a week to encourage/support some of their readers? Training could be provided. All help with reading is greatly appreciated.

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Success at School

The majority of this letter is composed of annual reminders that are designed to ensure the children are safe, happy and successful at school.



Changing to term time bedtimes. Please ensure that children quickly make the adjustment to term time bedtimes. The majority of children in the school need at least **10** hours sleep at night, with the oldest needing **9** or more.

All children should be settled in class by 8.50 a.m. Punctuality helps children succeed in their learning. This does mean that children need to be walking into school by **8.45 at the latest** in order to be ready on time.

Please keep non-urgent messages for teachers until the afternoon. The teachers and teaching assistants need to concentrate on getting the children happily settled in the morning, and will always be pleased to chat about longer term issues or issues that require a lengthy discussion after school or by appointment.

Please try to ensure that your KS1 child is heard read every day. Regular reading aloud is beneficial for KS2 children as well! Once children are independent and fluent readers the emphasis needs to be on discussing plot, motivation, character and developing the skill of reading between the lines.



A good breakfast will help children to concentrate and to enjoy the day.

Uniform

A reminder that **all** children should wear school uniform. Trousers should be tailored, and socks dark or grey without patterns or pictures. Long hair should be in plaits or bunches for safety reasons. No earrings, nail varnish or temporary tattoos in term time please!

Illness

If your child is unwell please call in before 9 o'clock on the first morning so we know that the child is safe and also the reason for their absence. A reminder that sickness must be followed by 48 hours at home to avoid contagion.

Diary Dates

Please transfer these dates to your lovely new 2013 diaries and calendars! This especially applies to INSET Days. We rely on parents doing this in order to be prepared for what is coming up!

January 2013

Monday 7th Start of Term 3

& Year Five Swimming starts

Tuesday 15th The deadline for admission for a Reception place at school for 2013 is at midnight

Wednesday 16th Orchestra starts
Playforce installation of solar powered clock.

Thursday 17th Mrs Flints starts full time in Class Four during Ms Johnson's absence until Tuesday 12th March.

Tuesday 22nd Two Spanish Trainee Teachers begin visit

February

Friday 1st Class Four Action Aid morning

Thursday 7th Wessex Water workshop for Class

Friday 8th End of Term 3

Monday 18th Start of Term 4

& Start of Parent/teacher interview fortnight

March

Friday 1st Class Three Anglo- Saxon morning

& Friends' Quiz Night

Friday 8th Class Five Cross Country @ St Marks

Wednesday 13th Dance Umbrella

Wednesday 20th Easter Service 9.30 a.m. (TBC)

Friday 22nd End of Term 4

April

Monday 8th Start of Term 5

Monday 22nd French Pen Pals in school

Tuesday 23rd Penpals get together @ The George

May

Monday 6th Bank Holiday

Monday 13th May fortnight Y6 SATS All children must be in school. (No sleepovers please in the week prior to the 13th)

Friday 24th End of Term 5

June

Monday 3rd INSET Day 4

Tuesday 4th Start of Term 6 for children

July

Key Dates

Monday 3rd June INSET Day 4

Friday 19th End of Term 6 for children

Monday 22nd INSET Day 5