



St Clement's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

Friday

7th October 2016

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PARKING IN FENNELLS MEAD

Many thanks to the vast number of parents/family members who have found alternative places to park and are not parking/turning in Fennells Mead for drop-off and pick-up. We hope this trend continues as the darker evenings and mornings approach.

DONATIONS OF COMICS/BOOKS

Thank you to the parents who donated games and books for our school children to use at playtime. We are requesting donations again for comics and books to be used by our Juniors. All donations gratefully received!

MUFTI-DAY

Friday 21st October is the first Mufti-Day of the school year. Please could I remind you that children are not permitted to wear high-heeled shoes or have their hair down on Mufti-Days. Please also ensure your child has a suitable coat/jacket and is wearing sensible shoes. The Friends of St Clement's will let parents know what is required on the day. Thank you for your support and co-operation.

NASAL FLU VACCINATION

The Nasal Flu Vaccination forms for children in Years 1, 2 and 3 need to be returned to the school office by Monday 10th October. If your child is having the vaccination somewhere else or you do not want your child to have the vaccination, please return the form anyway so that our school nurses know how much vaccination to order.

WINTER SCHOOL UNIFORM

All children must be in their winter uniform after half-term please.

Key Stage 1 boys: Grey trousers (plain NOT cargo style), school polo shirt and a red round necked sweatshirt with 'St Clement's School' embroidered.

Key Stage 1 girls: Grey skirt (no shorts style), pinafore or trousers, school polo shirt and a red round necked sweatshirt or cardigan with 'St Clement's School' embroidered.

Key Stage 2 boys: Grey trousers (plain NOT cargo style), white shirt, school tie and red v necked sweatshirt with 'St Clement's School' embroidered.

Key Stage 2 girls: Grey skirt (no shorts style), pinafore or trousers, white shirt, school tie and a red v necked sweatshirt or cardigan with 'St Clement's School' embroidered.

All children should have a dark coloured winter coat and wear black or brown shoes. Socks must be grey or black. *Please ensure your child's uniform is clearly labelled.*

PARENTS' EVENINGS

Letters for our Parent Interview Evenings have been sent home this week. It is essential that we have the reply slips returned as soon as possible to ensure that you receive the appointment time that you have asked for. Thank you for your co-operation.

YEAR 4 ASSEMBLY

Year 4 presented their assembly on Thursday morning to their family members, staff and pupils. In RE they have been studying the topic of family and they have researched their own family trees and being part of God's family. They acted out a fabulous interpretation of the Bible story, Joseph and his coat of many colours. They are all holding pictures of their own families and were able to describe and share with us how important family is before singing Bruno Mars' 'Count on Me'. Well done Year 4!



RECEPTION (HARVEST) ASSEMBLY

Our Reception class celebrate our Harvest Festival this year with their assembly on Friday 21st October at 9.10am. The harvest baskets are being collected and prepared by Reception parents and will be distributed to the needy in our community.

Reception parents and family members are very welcome to attend this special assembly.

SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

May we remind parents of children in Year 6 that the closing date for applications to secondary school for 2017 is Monday 31st October. Surrey County Council recommend that applications are made by Friday 21st October because of the half-term holiday. Supplementary forms are required for all Catholic secondary schools. If you need any help or advice on the process, please contact the school office.

YEAR 2 ASSEMBLY

Year 2 presented a beautiful assembly this morning—families, children and staff were very proud of them. The theme of the assembly was persevering with new things and they conveyed that message clearly and confidently. They clearly enjoyed singing along to Will.i.am's 'What I am'. Well done Year 2!



OPEN MORNINGS

We would like to invite prospective parents of children for our Reception Class for the academic year 2017-18 to one of our following open mornings:-

**Wednesday 9th November and Tuesday 15th
November 2016
9.30am to 10.45am**

The Headteacher will speak at 9.30am
Tours will begin at 10.00 and finish by 10.45am

SCHOOL DINNERS

School dinners after half term - 31st October to 21st December amounts to £83.60. There are seven weeks and three days of term up to the Christmas holidays. Year 5 children are having a retreat in November so their dinner money amounts to £81.40.

You may pay online through Parentmail or you may continue to pay cheque or cash to the school office, cheques should be made payable to Surrey County Council.

If your child wishes to change to school dinners or to packed lunch, please let the office know in writing giving one week's notice of the change. Thank you.

ST CLEMENT'S CHURCH CHILDREN'S LITURGY GROUP

St Clement's Church Children's Liturgy Group are taking part in a children's Christmas shoe box appeal to help disadvantaged children. They are looking for donations of empty shoe boxes to be brought to St Clement's Church over the next two weeks. Thank you.

FREE ADULT COURSES AT NESBOT

Nescot are running a host of free/fully funded Adult Learning Courses designed to help parents improve the learning outcomes for their children. Flyers are on display on the school office noticeboard or more information on the Functional Skills course can be found on the NESBOT website or by phoning the Adult Skills 4 Work Department on 0208 394 8426 or email flexiblelearning@nescot.ac.uk.

The Importance of Reading

Nothing is more important in education than ensuring that every child can read well. Pupils who can read are overwhelmingly more likely to succeed at school, achieve good qualifications and subsequently enjoy a fulfilling and rewarding career. Since the introduction of a more challenging primary curriculum, it is even more important that parents and families are able to regularly support a child's reading.

In addition to its substantial practical benefits, reading is one of life's profound joys. Every child should have the opportunity to experience the pleasure and enrichment which comes from reading a great novel, biography or play. Information collected from 9-10 year olds as part of the latest Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS), shows that those children who report reading for enjoyment every day achieved a significantly higher score on the assessment tests compared to those who only read for enjoyment once or twice a week.

Research by the National Literacy Trust found an association between the number of books read per month and reading proficiency for 8-16 year olds. Children (aged 8-16) who read two or more books per month were less likely to be struggling readers. Those who read five books a month were almost twice as likely to be reading at a level beyond their age, compared with those who do not read any books at all.

As well as improving academic attainment, international evidence also suggests reading fiction for pleasure has social consequences. It has been shown to be associated with empathy and increased social support. Reading, and discussing what you have read, are cornerstones of education, and the national curriculum aims to encourage all pupils into the habit of reading widely and often.

Parents, schools, libraries and others all have a vital role to play in fostering a love of reading amongst children - the journey starts today!

Excerpts from Reading: the next steps supporting higher standards in school which can be found on the DFE website for any parents wishing to read more:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education>

Reflection

As October is the month of the Holy Rosary we should all try to make room for Mary, the mother of our Saviour, in our busy lives. We have a beautiful statue of Mary (near the large tree in the front playground) which was donated to the school by Mrs Walsh – please feel free to take a moment to stop by the statue, particularly during October.

We ask Mary to help our school community answer the call of God, just as she did.

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, hail our life, our sweetness and our hope!

To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve.

To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears!

Turn, then, O most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this, our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary, pray for us, O Holy Mother of God, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Amen

