

SIR ROBERT GEFFERY'S SCHOOL – NEWSLETTER

9 January 2017 – Number 618

CLUBS

Netball Club is not running this week.

KS2 Theatre Trip

The KS2 visit to the pantomime takes place on Wednesday 11 January. We ask parents to come in the main door at 5.30pm and then wait for pupils inside the hall. If anyone else is picking your child up, please inform us beforehand. Their bags will be left around the outside of the hall so help yourself to your child's if you are waiting. We then ask for you to leave via the fire doors to reduce congestion. Children will be travelling on two buses and will be brought to the hall to be returned! As it is dark, we have found this is the safest way to do it. Children can bring sweets for the interval only. (Please do not send in chocolate as it melts!) School uniform and coats needed.

Please note that payment for tickets MUST be made prior to the trip.

PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

If you have a child born between 1/9/12 and 31/8/13, you need to apply for a school place.

The closing date for this is Sunday 15 January.

Census Day - Thursday 19 January

We receive all our funding for the KS1 dinners based on the dinners taken on two days. One of these is 19 January. Chartwells have a special meal on that day as a celebration and incentive. It would be really helpful, even if your child does not usually have a dinner on that day and they are in Reception, Year 1 or 2 that they have one booked. It is a silly system, but if they do not take it on that day we have no funding for all the others they take. This means that we have to take money out of the school budget to cover this, instead of it being given from a different pot. Last year it cost us several thousand as not everybody who had meals signed up. If your child doesn't like the menu that day, sign up and provide an extra snack box for lunchtime as well.

PLEASE, PLEASE HELP BY BOOKING A DINNER ON THAT DAY, AND PASS THE MESSAGE ON AS NOT EVERYBODY READS THE NEWSLETTER

Change of Menu

Build your own burger – Quorn or Beef
With Chips, Coleslaw and Baked Beans

Sportshall Athletics – for those attending, please provide your child with their car seat.

KS2 Homework this term

Following discussions, we have attached to this newsletter a menu of activities for children to have a go at this term, in addition to the activities below. We suggest that over the term the children have a go at four of them. If they get very involved in one activity, and don't have time for all four, that is fine. They may choose to repeat one using different materials etc. I am suggesting that you take a picture of them with the outcome. If these are emailed to us at: homelearning@sir-robert-gefferys.cornwall.sch.uk we will display them in the entry lobby and also print them off for display. We propose to have a home learning exhibition in the hall on Wednesday 29 March, so that models or objects that have been created can be shared. The children may or may not have something physical for this, but it will be an opportunity for them to share something they are proud of.

Weekly

Reading

Our link for accelerated reader is

<https://ukhosted70.renlearn.co.uk/2234733>

Username are the same as previously, however passwords have been changed to match the individual Mathematics passwords.

We hope that children will read a book at an appropriate level for them each week and complete a quiz. Sometimes they may have chosen a longer novel and it may take two weeks and there will be times the books are shorter so will take less time to read. The children will still be able to complete the quizzes at school, but we have now individualised passwords so that they can access at home during the week days. Sometimes they need to do it soon after completing especially while they are young. It will be good for you to see how accurate they are with the comprehension, so you can support the development of these important skills.

Maths

Less courses will be set in Mathematics, but children will be encouraged to complete items of interest as well as covering the areas in school.

Year 2 and 6 will have some assessment activities to complete in a written form. Mymaths.co.uk is a useful resource for the children to use to go back over things they feel less confident in.

Spelling

The expectation is a spellodrome certificate and spellings to be learned for a weekly test. Words may be sent home in a paper form as well.

Day to day discussions to support your child

Discussions about vocabulary

- Collecting WOW words that help the children extend their vocabulary. The more they see and hear words the more likely they are to use them in their writing.
- Talking about shape or numbers in everyday situations eg. weighing in recipes
- Practise of tables in the car or walking to school etc.

SCHOOL WORD OF THE WEEK

Phenomenon

Supporting our children and learning

We continue to have a wide range of additional group and individual activities to support learning and personal emotional needs. Every child will need support in some way during their school learning journey. Our staff are committed to meet their needs and we discuss needs as they arise on a day to day basis, but also meet half termly to review progress of every pupil.

Some of the activities running this term include:

Home Learning Clubs

These are available before and after every school day to support children and families and also to enable children to access technology if this is difficult at home. Children can just attend. Kathy and those she rallies to support her during busier times, have endless patience and this I know has been appreciated and well received by parents and children alike. Don't make life a battle at home, use these opportunities.

ICT Club

Colin mans this every morning and lunchtime. He is always keen to encourage and supportive of the children who attend. Some come daily to complete mathematics or to do research etc.

Draw to Talk

Some children will have a block of sessions with Cat or Kathy, who are both trained in using drawing as a tool to develop talking to support emotional and learning development and good self-esteem. Having time with an adult on a one to one is always popular with the children.

Coaching in KS2

The children are enjoying their individual sessions and are keen to have their time. We are aiming for once a fortnight this term for every child and some may get one a week. Kathy Jones, Becky Blunt and Lorna Osborne organise this. Do look at the notes recorded in the coaching book. We hope that the children will become more responsible for their learning and this will help them become more independent learners.

Better Reading Project

Children in Year 1 and 2 work with Cat over a specific time to develop reading skills. Cat works with these children several times a week and the programme has been very successful in developing reading skills. Cat is brilliant at motivating and encouraging children on this journey. Firstly decoding and then developing comprehension skills.

Phonological Awareness

Mrs Clark has developed this intervention to give phonics booster sessions to groups of pupils who would benefit from it.

Nurture Room and supported activities

We have several opportunities for children at lunchtimes to be in close proximity of adult support. Children may choose to attend but also they can be signposted there to avoid problems arising. One of these is the nurture room where Lorna supervises ipad activities. If children have made the choice to go there, then they are also encouraged to go outside for part of the time as well.

Kathy - Parent Support and Liaison

Kathy is a good port of call if you need advice or support in anyway. She is our liaison with the Friends Committee and she can organise sessions that will support parents in different ways. Kathy can also signpost parents to outside agencies when appropriate.

THRIVE

We are really pleased with the development of our THRIVE programme and Nic Jones has done an amazing job. This supports children emotionally and therefore supports their learning in a positive manner. Children who have difficult things to cope with or changes in their family life often benefit from this programme. Nic can help by working with families and sharing strategies and resources that maybe useful at home as well.

If we feel your child would benefit from this we will discuss it with you, but also please do make sure that we know if your child is experiencing difficulties and we can find the best support for them. It may well be THRIVE sessions. If you want further information there is a specific THRIVE website.

Cornwall Early Hub

Following discussions with parents, we often refer children who would benefit from additional support through the Early Hub.

We can access support from:

- Health Visiting (over 2 years)
- School Nursing
- Family Support
- Targeted Youth Support
- Parenting Support
- Video Interaction Guidance
- Family Group Conferencing
- Early Years Inclusion Service

You can find out what is available through the Family Information Service website <https://www.supportincornwall.org.uk/> It tells you what is available and also how you can book onto things such as parenting courses or request help from the school nurse etc. Children are all different and we work with many outside agencies when it is the best way forward to support any pupil or family. Do make us aware of any additional need or change so we can make sure we support appropriately.

Attendance

Attendance Letters will be coming home this evening – please look out for them.

Making sure your child is able to access learning easily

Hearing

On a regular basis we are visited by the teacher for the hearing impaired if your child has been referred from the medical teams in audiology. Do ask the GP for your child to have a hearing test if you feel they have a hearing problem. Sometimes these tests are conducted at school and all year one pupils are screened through the national programme unless you opt out. Our soundfield system really aids the children to achieve well if they have hearing issues and we know that a third in any class would be experience intermittent issues related to glue ear and colds etc.

Eye Sight

Several children who attended the opticians because we suggested last time are now the proud owners of glasses. Others have had the additional test at Noakes and Habermahls that looks at whether coloured tints or overlays would help their learning. Do make sure your child has a regular eye sight test. If you cannot see the screen easily every aspect of learning can be a challenge.

Next year's dates and calendar

To avoid routine holidays being booked at the wrong times we are publishing the dates for next year (2017/2018) for your calendars. This is available on the school website (in Documents – General) for reference.

2017-18

Autumn: 4 September – 20 December

Half Term: 23 – 27 October

Spring: 4 January - 29 March

Half Term: 12 – 16 February

Summer: 16 April – 24 July

Half Term: 28 May – 1 June

INSET DAYS (not included in dates above)

Monday 4 September Friday 20 October

Thursday 4 January Mon 23 & Tues 24 July

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

THIS WEEK:

Mon 9 January	Hi-5 Netball
Weds 11 January	KS2 Panto visit Sportshall Athletics: Saltash
Thursday 12 Jan	Swimming Lessons (yrs 3/5)
Friday 13 January	Cross-Country League Run Cotehele

NEXT WEEK:

Weds 18 January	Friends Meeting 9.15am
Thurs 19 January	Swimming Lessons (yrs 3/5) Census Day
Mon 30 January	Hi-5 Netball
Weds 1 February	Sportsability Festival
Friday 3 February	Maths Masterclass – Saltash
Mon 6 February	KS1 Gym Competition
13 – 17 February	HALF TERM
Mon 27 February	Hi-5 Netball
Tuesday 7 March	Class/Team Photos 1.30pm
Monday 13 March	Orienteering – St Germans
Friday 17 March	Landrake Run
Weds 22 March	School Disco
Friday 31 March	Easter Service
3 – 17 April	EASTER HOLIDAYS
Wednesday 17 May	Sports Day
Friday 14 July	Speech Day
Saturday 15 July	Summer Festival
Tuesday 25 July	Year 6 Leavers Service

Contact Details

If there have been any changes to any of your details, please keep us informed so we are able to contact you if necessary.

Happy New Year from Landrake Messy Church

Our next messiness will take place on
Saturday 14 January - 4pm til 6pm
At Landrake Chapel
Please join us for crafts, food and fun
(Bring a little food for our shared tea if you can.)

If you have car seats that are no longer needed,
please would you be able to donate them to
school.

Romans 10:13

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will
be saved

Collection for Syria

We're collecting for essential items to be sent to the people of Syria.

All clothing and shelter items **MUST** be clean and in good condition – only items on the list can be taken.

NO DUVETS, SHEETS, PILLOWS OR SHOES

Children's Clothes

Warm Jumpers	Warm jackets
Trousers	Long-sleeved t-shirts
Tops	New underwear and socks
Warm jackets	Girls warm skirts/dresses

Baby Items

Baby toiletries	Teething gels
Lotions, talcum powder etc.	
Baby food – must be vegetarian	
Ready mixed baby milk	
Baby food pouches	
Baby grows/warm clothing	

Shelter

Sleeping Bags	Blankets
Tents	Foil Blankets

Adult Clothes

Warm jackets
Jumpers/sweatshirts
Long sleeve t-shirts
New underwear and socks
Gloves/Hats/Scarves

Food Items



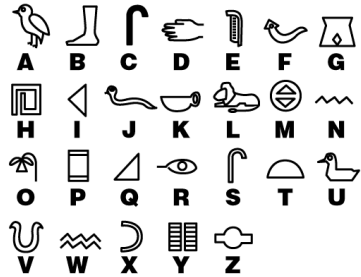





Nuts, dried fruits, lentils	
Tea – regular, fruit, herbal	
Various tinned vegetables	
Vegetarian tinned soup	
Cartons of fruit juice	
Rice, pasta, flour	Vegetable oil
Tinned potatoes	Tinned pasta or fish
Mixed grains	Cereal bars and cereals
Fruit squash	Peanut Butter
Chocolate spread	Whole longlife milk

Please bring in to school on Friday 27 January.

Board Games Club - REQUEST

We are short of games for our board games club after school. If you have any games that aren't being used and are complete, we would be grateful to receive them!

HOMWORK MENU

<p>Construct a pyramid using materials of your choice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Inside or outside ○ Lego ○ Sand ○ Construction paper 	
	<p>Design and make Egyptian jewellery using everyday items or recyclable materials</p>
<p>Write your name in hieroglyphics in a variety of ways, using different mediums, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On paper ○ Sand ○ Mud ○ Clay 	
	<p>Make pancakes or a cake for a family celebration</p>
<p>Find out ten facts about Ancient Egyptian life</p>	
	<p>Prepare a presentation about a real or an imaginary Egyptian god or goddess.</p>
<p>An activity of your choice related to Ancient Egypt</p>	
	<p>Go on a Tomb Raider expedition (imaginary walk) with your family using your imagination and enjoying the fresh air and surroundings.</p>

Please select at least four of these this term. If you would like to Email photos of the things that have been made, please sent to:

homelearning@sir-robert-gefferys.cornwall.sch.uk

We will be holding an exhibition of homework on Wednesday 29 March if they would like to bring in the actual objects created. Photos will be displayed throughout the term on the screen in the school entrance.