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NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Miss School, Miss Out!

We are continuing this year to try to improve our school attendance. As you are aware, academic achievement is linked to regular attendance. Your child needs to be **Here, Everyday, Ready, On Time**. The children not only need to be at school every day but also ready for learning and on time. I have already received a number of forms from parents requesting holiday in term time and would like you all to consider your child's progress in their learning, both academically and socially, when deciding when to take your children out of school. We have a new attendance and absence policy, which reflects the new DfE guidance on attendance from 1 September 2022. It can be found on our website, in the [policies section](#), for your information.



Mrs Sally Dreckmann
Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

Please see the attached sheet of dates for your diary for the Autumn Term. Any new dates added since the last letter are in **red**.



Children due to start school in September 2023 and Transfer to Juniors.

Transfer to Junior School letters have recently been sent out via ParentMail to all children in Year 2. Please contact the office if you have not received one.

This year, the West Sussex County Council is not sending individual letters to new parents whose children are due to start school in September 2023 but is advertising the application arrangements widely, including on social media. The deadline for applications for both starting school and transfer to Junior School is Sunday 15th January 2023.

Parents are being encouraged to apply for their child's school place using the online system at www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions. Applications must be submitted by the **national closing date of Sunday 15th January 2022**. The online system is now open.

Families without internet access at home will be able to apply on-line at libraries and Children & Family Centres for free. If you need any help, or know anyone who may need help, please let us know.

Flu Vaccinations

Just a reminder that the school nurses are coming into school on Thursday 13th October to administer the flu vaccination to all the children in Reception and Years 1 and 2. If you have not already done so, please could you complete the online consent form, the details of which were recently sent out via ParentMail. **Please could you complete this form even if you do not wish your child to have the vaccination.** You have until Thursday 6th

October to complete this form. If you are having any difficulties, please contact Sharon in the school office. Thank you.

Cauliflower Christmas Cards

Your child should have come home with their beautiful artwork. Just a reminder that if you wish to place an order, this must be done online using the unique code located at the top of the order form. **The order form and artwork will then need to be returned to the school by no later than Friday 7th October.** If the artwork is not sent back to us, the order cannot be processed but you may still be charged. Please remember to tick the box on the order form to confirm that you have placed the order online.

Star Badges

For the benefit of our new families, every week we select two children from each class to be awarded a 'star badge'. This is awarded for several reasons such as good behaviour, a special piece of work, helping others in class, to name just a few. The star badges are collected in on Thursday lunchtime, ready to be given to the next child on Friday. It is very important that the children bring them back, otherwise we will not have enough for the next week. Thank you.

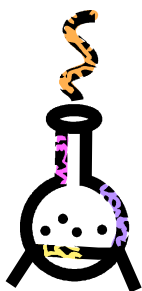


Wellies!

As the weather starts to get wetter, we would still like to continue using our fantastic school field for as long as possible. Therefore, can we please ask that if at all possible, you bring a pair of wellington boots (both named please) into school, which will stay here (until they become too small or we no longer need to use them).

Science Week: 17th - 20th October

We are very much looking forward to school science week. The children will be taking part in lots of exciting activities. As part of our science week we are inviting the children to bring in simple, safe experiments that have a "wow!" factor



to demonstrate to their class. Those children will receive a special Science Week Certificate.

PE Kit in School

Just a reminder that the Reception children will need a PE kit in school after the October half term. School Trends are currently offering a special PE kit bundle for £18.00 consisting of a red t-shirt, striped green shorts and a PE bag. Please visit their website www.schooltrends.co.uk A small amount of stock is also available to purchase from the school office.

Please can we ask that all children have a pair of leggings or joggers in their PE kit every day, especially now as the weather is getting colder and please could you check that their plimsolls or trainers still fit!

Library Refurbishment

We would like to express our thanks to Becky Gadd, Gwen's mum in Oak Class, who has spent many an hour totally transforming our library area by painting a beautiful mural on the walls. Please do come and have a look if you are ever in school, it really is amazing. The library was officially 're-opened' after school on Wednesday 14th September by Becky and Cllr Alan Smith from Aldwick Parish Council. Abigail and Christine also joined us from the West Sussex library service. A big thank you also goes to Mrs Bennett (our phonics and early reading leader), the PTA (for purchasing all the new book boxes, book ends, labels etc.) and of course Ms Beeney for baking a splendid cake for the occasion. Please do look on our website at the photos.



Harvest

A letter will be going out soon regarding a harvest food collection.

Staffing News

We would like to welcome Mrs Kerrie Haynes who will be working as a one-to-one TA in Poppy Class.

And finally

1. As the weather is turning colder, please can you ensure that your child has a (named) warm waterproof coat in school every day as we are going out in all weathers.

2. Please can your child still bring their book bag into school on Forest School days.

3. If any parent is having a sort out at home, the Reception classes are after the following donations:-

Dolls and dolls' clothes
Doll's house
Doll's house furniture
Lego
Junk modelling
Wooden train track and trains
Loose parts - nuts, bolts, washers
Moving toys
Transformers
Buttons
Picture frames

Thank you.

Dates for your Diary - more details to follow (New dates in **Red**)

Event	Date	Time
PTA Annual General Meeting	Thursday 6 th October	7.00 pm
Flu vaccinations for Reception, Years 1 & 2	Thursday 13 th October	pm
Harvest food collection	13 th October - 5 th November	
Science Week	17 th - 20 th October	
Parent Consultations	17 th - 20 th October and 31 st October - 4 th November	
Inset Day (school closed for staff training)	Friday 21 st October	
Half term	24 th October - 28 th October	
Y2 Dental Hygiene Day	Thursday 10 th November	
Anti-bullying week	14 th - 18 th November	
Children in Need (non-uniform day)	Friday 18 th November	all day
Reception Christmas Concert	Wednesday 7 th December	2.15 pm
Reception Christmas Concert (no pre-school children please)	Thursday 8 th December	9.15 am
Save the Children Fund Christmas Jumper Day	Friday 9 th December	
Year 1 Christmas Concert	Tuesday 13 th December	2.00 pm
Year 1 Christmas Concert (no pre-school children please)	Wednesday 14 th December	9.15 am
Year 2 Christmas Concert	Wednesday 14 th December	2.15 pm
Year 2 Christmas Concert (no pre-school children please)	Thursday 15 th December	9.15 am
Christmas holidays	19 th December - 2 nd January	
Inset Day	Tuesday 3 rd January	
Start of Spring Term for children	Wednesday 4 th January	