



NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the new school year, we hope that you had a lovely summer and managed to take advantage of the lovely weather at the start of the holidays. We are sure that 2018/19 will be a fantastic year for your child(ren) as the staff have been really busy planning some fabulous topics for the year ahead.

You may have noticed a strange looking object in the playground on Wednesday morning, it was the source of a great deal of speculation. Eventually we established that it was a "Lost Thing" and, despite initial concerns, it presented little danger to the school. It's appearance was a good thing really as our school wide topic for this week was "The Lost Thing" by Shaun Tan.

The children have such amazing imaginations and we have seen some lovely work all about various lost things and will be working hard to get a display up in the Library very soon. It has been a real pleasure to walk around the school and see the children settle back so quickly and become engaged and excited about their learning and we had lots to celebrate in our first Friday assembly.

The changes to the start of the school day have gone well so far, the children are definitely more settled at the start of lessons as a consequence, so thank you for your support in this matter.

As you may remember, we discussed homework at our last parents' forum – which is always a topic that polarises opinions! We have thought long and hard about your comments and those of your children and discussed them as a staff. The main considerations being how we value homework, it's impact in school and the consistency of expectation that it is completed; the outcome of which means that we will be losing the topic grid and focusing on reading, spelling, times tables (in key stage 1 and lower key stage 2) and in year 5 and 6 there will be maths and grammar, spelling and punctuation homework.

Your child's class teacher will explain the expectations for their particular year group, with homework generally being set on a Monday and expected in on a Friday. We will be running a homework club one lunchtime a week so that if your child does need support to complete their homework they are welcome to attend this. We will be adapting our homework policy next week and uploading it to the website so that you can update yourself as to the changes.

We would love it, however, if children would like to do an additional creative piece of work for their half termly topic, this would be shared with Mrs Richardson, with the possibility of it being displayed around the school.

Please take time to look at the dates section to see what is coming up in the next few weeks, including our Meet the Teacher and Macmillan Afternoon Tea.

We hope that you have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Richardson on behalf of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

★ STUDENTS OF THE WEEK ★

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|-----------------|---------------------|
| DEER | Tabetha Parker |
| OWLS | Alexis Ward |
| RED KITES | Isla Simpson-Hadden |
| ROBINS | Violet Asbridge |
| FOXES | Dylan Davey |
| BADGERS | Calan Morrin |
| LUNCHTIME AWARD | Deer Class |

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations & Well Done to.....

- ◇ Niall Parry for achieving his Level 5 in swimming
- ◇ Emily Carr for achieving her 5m Rainbow swimming badge
- ◇ Amy Orange for receiving a letter from the Queen!

Article 31; leisure, play and culture

To ensure your child's achievement is mentioned, please make sure that it is with the school office before Friday morning. Achievements received on the morning run the risk of being missed.

Proud to be part of the **UNIVERSITY OF CHICHESTER** ACADEMY TRUST

DIARY DATES

SEPT

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| Tues 11 | Deer & Robins Forest School sessions start |
| Fri 14 | Hustings for School Officers |
| Fri 14 | Squirrels Class photo |
| Fri 14 | Y3&4 Swimming starts |
| Fri 14 | 7pm FOFS Meeting at Red Lion |
| Mon 17 | 3pm Meet the Teacher & Macmillan Coffee Afternoon |
| Thurs 20 | Robins to PGL Residential |
| Fri 21 | Robins return from PGL Residential |
| Wed 26 | Badgers to MRC Taster Day |

OCT

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| Thurs 4 | Owls to Pulborough Brooks |
| Mon 8 | Badgers Cake Sale |
| Fri 12 | 9am FOFS Meeting in Oscars |
| Fri 12 | 3.30pm Prospective Parents Open Afternoon |
| Sat 13 | FOFS Film Night at Village Hall |
| Thurs 18 | 6-8pm Parents Online Safety Training |
| Fri 19 | Inset day—school closed |

INSETS ANNOUNCED

We have announced 3 further inset days for this academic year:

- ◆ Friday 19 October
- ◆ Friday 15 February
- ◆ Monday 3 June

School will be closed to pupils on these days.

FOFS ROUND UP

The FOFS dates for the year are in the calendar and our first meeting is coming up on Friday 14 September at the Red Lion pub. We have lots of fun and new fundraising ideas to discuss and we would love to see you so do please come along.

MESSY HARVEST

Taking place on Friday 21 September at St Margaret's Church in the village from 3.15pm. Arts, crafts, songs and a cooked meal—so head along and have some fun making a scarecrow, decorating some harvest cakes and making a mini harvest garden!



KEY STAGE 2 SNACKS

As of this term, we will no longer be providing fruit for children in Key Stage 2. If your child is in Y3-6 and you feel they will want a snack at break time they must bring one in from home. Please remember this must be fresh or dried fruit and vegetables only, processed items such as Yoyo bears, Winders, Peelers, etc. are not allowed.

OSCARS CLOSURE

Please note that due to whole staff training Oscars will be closed on the afternoons of **Tuesday 25 September and Tuesday 2 October**. You should make alternative arrangements for your children after school on this day if they normally attend Oscars. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

DRUMS!

Would your child be interested in drum lessons at school? Pete Watson, our drumming teacher, has a few spaces on a Thursday morning. If you are interested please contact the school office or Pete directly on rhythmroomdrums@hotmail.co.uk



NOTICES FROM THE OFFICE

As you may recall, in attempt to save money and the environment, we are going paperless this year! So there will be no more paper copies coming home in book bags, all communications will be via email. Therefore it is vital that we hold the correct email address for you and that you are able to access this regularly. Replies, where necessary, can be via email or better still via Scopay where you will be able to pay online at the same time. If you require a Scopay log in letter, please let the office or Mrs Ward know.

A reminder that children with diarrhoea and vomiting must be kept off school for 48 hours after their last episode and that anyone suffering from a contagious illness, such as chicken pox or hand, foot and mouth is kept off for the required amount of time. This is to ensure the health of all pupils and staff but in particular a pupil who is currently undergoing treatment for cancer.

We are going to be transferring all our uniform sales online and will stop selling uniform from the office as a result. We do still have some stock however and will be selling this at the Macmillan Coffee Afternoon at a slightly discounted rate—so come and grab a bargain!

Club Letters will come home next week with a view to them commencing the week of 17 September.

REMINDERS

- Robins—please ensure that you return your PGL parental consent form asap.
- Robins & Red Kites—swimming forms need to be returned and initial payments made asap. Volunteers needed to accompany Robins class please.
- Forest School for Deer and Robins starts next Tuesday—Deer class in the morning and Robins in the afternoon. If you would like to join them please let us know.
- Music lessons start next week—please remember your instrument!
- If your child has an inhaler that the office needs to hold, please ensure that you drop it in to us with the completed form.