



October 2015 Newsletter

Dates for your Diary....

Autumn Term Dates:

Midterm Break:

Mon 19th to Mon 26th Oct '15

School re-opens Tuesday 27th

School Closes:

Fri 18th Dec '15

Spring Term Starts:

Tuesday 5th January 2016

Midterm Break:

Mon 15th Feb to Fri 19th Feb '16

School Closes for the Easter Break:

Thurs 24th Mar '16

All term dates can be found on our website

Parents Evenings:

(Please note there is a slight change to previously publicised dates)

Wed 28th Oct '15

Thurs 29th Oct '15 (R/B & P/B)

Tues 3rd Nov '15

Pupil School Photos

Thurs 29th Oct '15

PTA Halloween Disco

Thurs 29th Oct '15

Christmas Events:

Activity Day—

Fri 27th Nov '15

Xmas Dinner—

Thurs 10th Dec '15

Yr 2 Twilight Carols —

Mon 14th Dec '15

Yr R & 1 Performance—

Tue & Wed 15/16th Dec '15

Please check our website regularly for the latest news and updates.

Message from the Head

Welcome to all of our pupils, parents and staff. It has been a busy start to the new school year and has been lovely to see everyone settle back into school life.

A special welcome goes to our new Foundation parents and children. Our youngest pupils have settled well, seem happy, are getting used to the school routines and making progress with their learning. The staff and I have enjoyed meeting and working with our new parents and we hope these relationships will strengthen during the course of the school year.

Special welcome also goes to our new pupils in Year 1 & 2: **Guneet Bhamra (PH), Neya Mistry (L/E), Ayaan Mohammad (OM) and Daniel Garbalinski (AH)**

Our new staff this year are Miss Sarai who has joined our FS team as a LSA, and Mrs Cheema & Mrs Banacinska who have joined our Lunchtime team. We also wish Ms Reynolds luck as she starts Maternity leave.

I hope you all have a restful half term break, please remember that we do not return to school until **Tuesday 27th October**.

Mrs Balsara

School Council



Our children's opinions are very important to us, and each year we nominate two School Council Representatives for each KS1 class. Miss Kirby meets regularly with the school council to discuss whole school issues and matters that are important to the children. I am sure that these children will make valuable contributions to the life of the school and work hard in their important roles. Minutes of the school council meetings are available on our website.

Our School Council Members this year are:

Year 1:- Ruby Moore, Yug Soni, Hemali Mistry, Krish Karia, Alisa Sinkova, Owen Taylor.

Year 2:- Lilly Bedford, Connor McShane, Avni Panchal, Jacob Tregenza, Ella Ball, Dillon Reynolds.



Breakfast Club

BREAKFAST CLUB

Our new "Breakfast Club" is open every morning from 8am. There is no need to book, if you want your child to attend please just bring them into school on the morning they are attending.

There is a charge of £3.50 for each session your child attends; this should be paid through our online payment system "ParentPay". Full details of how to make your payment are included on the Breakfast Club page of our website.

We offer children a varied menu each morning which will be inline with our "Healthy Schools" status. There are also a variety of activities available for the children to enjoy while they are at the club.

Summer Refurbishment

Our summer refurbishment project has been completed successfully, providing a great new learning environment for our Foundation Stage and class P/B. We hope to receive funding to complete phase two of the project next summer.



Attendance

**EVERY
SCHOOL DAY
COUNTS**

Good attendance is very important at our school and we are passionate in fostering positive attitudes to school life, so that each child enjoys coming into school to learn. Research shows that even short gaps in a child's school attendance can reduce their chances of achieving good performance by as much as 25%. With this in mind, we work in partnership with parents to ensure children are happy and settle well, so that each day is maximised and contributes to your child's success and wellbeing.

Our Attendance target is 96.5%. We regularly monitor every child's record with the Educational Welfare Officer. Any attendance **below 95%** will be treated as **Persistent Absence**. If your child's attendance is **below** or **at risk of falling below our school target** we will notify you. Good attendance at school is regularly rewarded on a termly and annual basis. We hope you will be able to work with us to ensure your child maintains a healthy attendance record and that they benefit from attending school every day.

If your child is unable to attend school on any day it is **important that you inform the school and provide a reason**. The school has an answerphone system where you are able to leave a message.

The school does not authorise holidays during term time.

Requests for exceptional leave (not holidays) will need approval from the Head Teacher at least 2 weeks in advance.

After School Clubs

This term after school clubs have been very popular offering children a range of different experiences. This term we have the following clubs running: Choir, Gardening Club, Drama, Cheerleading & Street Dance.



Look out for letters regarding future clubs in your child's book bags, and remember to activate your ParentPay account so you can book onto a club!

PTA News



Our new PTA have been working very hard to organise events for our pupils to enjoy. The **Macmillan Coffee Morning** held on the 25th September, was very successful, raising £134.00. A huge well done for all those involved. Thank you for all the entries for the 'Design a Mug' competition, the winner was Karina Vyas (OM), with runner ups, Darsh Patel (WK) and Marshal Gardner (JJ). The next PTA event this year will be the **Spooky Halloween Disco** on Thursday 29th October and we are very much looking forward to seeing everyone in their fancy dress!

If you'd like to be involved with or contact the PTA please e-mail ptachurchhillinfantschool@gmail.com.