

"Welcome back" to parents of Year 1 and Year 2 children and welcome to the families of Key Stage One children new to our school. And what a start it was to the new term! I was certainly not expecting to wake up to calls from our site staff to inform me of a burst water pipe which meant that unfortunately we had to close the school as it was not safe for the children to attend. I am glad that this was able to be rectified so quickly which meant that the school only had to close for one day. I do appreciate how inconvenient this was for working parents. That being said, I do hope that you have all had a pleasant summer and enjoyed the time with your children. The children all look so lovely and smart in their new school uniforms and there were so many happy smiles this week. It has been a very positive start for all our children and there is a calm and enthusiastic learning atmosphere throughout the school. Children in Year 1 and Year 2 have settled back into school routines happily and are establishing friendships in their classes and are getting to know their new class teachers and their expectations as regards work and behaviour. I would also like to warmly welcome all parents of Year R children and particularly those parents who have not previously had children at our school. We look forward to getting to know your children and all of you over the coming weeks and months.

Staff Changes

I am delighted to inform you that following a restructure of the school's leadership team Mrs McBride has been appointed as assistant headteacher alongside Mr Stray. I am also happy to share with you that she will shortly be getting married and will now be going by her new name of Mrs Bailey (slightly early but so as not to confuse the children).

We have also welcomed Miss Proddow as class teacher in Robins' Class and Miss White as class teacher in Eagles' Class. Miss Ford and Mrs Underdown have also joined Mrs Bailey's special needs team and we are looking forward to welcoming them to the school and getting to know them better. Following a long period of absence Miss Hawkins will not be returning.

Reminder re VERY Important Date: Friday 15 September – SCHOOL CLOSING AT 1.15PM

As previously advised, we had to reschedule our summer fayre so this will now be taking place next Friday at 1.30pm/1.45pm which is resulting in the school closing at 1.15pm. We have done this as it has become increasingly difficult for the PTFA to get enough volunteers to run the stalls and to help tidy up afterwards. In this way all staff are able to run a stall. The children will therefore have lunch at school and we need you to collect them at 1.15pm. The Summer Fayre will start at 1.30pm/1.45pm. Please note that the Beehive After School Club will not be running on this day and no charge will be made. This will also affect children who attend from Purbrook Junior School.

Help needed

We currently only have two parents who have signed up to help set up, help at the fayre or help tidy up at the end of the fayre. If you are able to help, even if only for an hour or so, this would be very helpful. Please can you either fill in your details via the Google form, email Lorraine, Chair of the PTFA on <u>ptfa@purbrook-inf.hants.sch.uk</u> or leave your details with the school office. <u>Summer Fayre Google Form</u>

Water Bottles

Please can you ensure that your child has a water bottle in school, particularly with the warmer weather we are experiencing at the moment. This year will be sending the bottles home every Friday so that parents can clean these. Please can you ensure that these are sent into school every Monday. These will be rinsed and refilled daily. As this is a change of routine, we will send out an email reminder via ParentMail every Sunday evening to remind parents to send their child in with their water bottle every Monday morning for a few weeks.

Collection Form

Earlier this week we sent out a letter which contained a Google form asking you to add the people you have nominated to collect your child. If you have not already filled in this form. Please can you do so. Links to the letters and forms are below.

Year R Collection Arrangement Letter Year 1 Collection Arrangement Letter Year 2 Collection Arrangement Letter

Date for your Diary: Jeans for Genes Day 22 September

Friday, 22 September is Jeans for Genes Day. Jeans for Genes is run by a charity called Genetic Disorders UK and is an event that we support annually. The charity carries out important research into genetic disorders which affect many children and their families. We ask that children wear their jeans to school on this day, with their normal school shirts and sweatshirts and suitable school shoes. In return for wearing their jeans, we ask that children bring in voluntary contributions. The money will then be collected from classes and sent off to help support the important work that this charity carries out. As a school we can, together, help to make a real difference.

Breakfast and Beehive After School Club Invoices

These invoices have now been sent out for children in Year 1 and Year 2 and a payment should be made against your account shortly. Invoices for children in Year R will be sent out next week.

Cool Milk

If you would like your child to have milk in the morning whilst they are at school and you have not yet ordered this for your child please go to <u>www.coolmilk.com</u>. Please be advised that orders take some days to be processed before we are made aware.

Library Summer Reading Challenge: Finishes Saturday 16 September

If your child hasn't completed the challenge yet, visit the Library and tell them about the books your child has read. They only need to read 6 to get a medal and certificate.

Reporting Absence

A reminder that as well as telephoning the school, you can also report your child's absence via a company called **Studybugs** which enables you to go online via a phone or computer to report your child's absence securely. To get the free Studybugs app, or register on their website go to (<u>https://studybugs.com/about/parents</u>). If your child is unwell it is your responsibility to inform the school of this.

Forest School Sessions:

Timetable for this half term has been sent out. Paper copies are on the notice boards by the North Door and the South Door. You are also able to check the timetable by clicking the following link: <u>Autumn A Timetable</u>

Lunch Menu

Next week's menu will be: Week 1. Please click on the following link to access the menu online: <u>menu</u>. Paper copies are on the notice boards by the North Door and the South Door and in Wagtails' Class window.

Reminder of INSET Days for this academic year

- 27 November 2023
- O2 January 2024
- > 28 March 2024
- 03 June 2024

Yours sincerely

Mrs L A de Carteret Headteacher