



NEWSLETTER

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Wednesday 6 June 2018

Dear Parents,

Key dates:

- Sports morning on the Junior field (weather allowing) Mon 18 June, 9.10am YrR, 10am Yr1, 11am Yr 2
- Year 1 phonic screening week commencing Monday 11 June. Results released 17 July.
- Year 1 annual reports home Wednesday 20 June.
- Year 2 parent induction talk in Junior School, 2.00pm Wednesday 27 June.
- Year 2 curriculum project with Year 3 week commencing Monday 2 July.
- Open Afternoon for all families including new Reception entrants Thursday 5 July from 3.00 to 5.00pm.
- Year 2 Leavers Concert at 9.00am Thursday 12 July and Leavers Lunch at 1.00pm.
- Yr 2 and Yr R annual reports and class information out, Tuesday afternoon 17 July.
- School closes at 2.00pm on Friday 20 July for the summer holiday!

Staffing

The staff we employ have consistently high expectations and do a wonderful job supporting all children, including those with complex needs. During the last few years there have been considerable changes to the staffing complement as the number of children with complex needs and 1:1 support has risen, particularly in Year 2. However, as this year group is due to transfer to the Junior School in July we will have to reduce staff hours and say farewell to some of them. We wish them good luck and success in their new roles.

- Melissa Klein (midday) is starting a new role as Teaching Assistant at Oakview.
- Breda D'Arcy (TA) is also taking up a post at Oakview in July.
- Amy Rix (TA) is to become a senior occupational therapy assistant in July.

Other staff changes include:

- Congratulations to Miss Mallett who married during half term. She is now Mrs Parrish.
- Miss Schaad goes on maternity leave on Friday 22 June. Miss Smith is taking over.
- Mrs Hambling goes on maternity leave on Friday 29 June.
- Mrs Lee returns from maternity leave on Thursday 5 July.
- As you already know, Miss Melia is taking early retirement in the summer and Miss Bristow will take over the role of Deputy Headteacher in September.
- We will welcome three new teachers to the team. They are in school for Open Afternoon on 5 July so you can meet them. They are Daisy Clarke, Gemma Camp and Poppy Russell. Miss Russell worked in Elm Class during the spring term. Miss Camp is currently teaching at St John's in Buckhurst Hill and Miss Clarke is based in the Chingford area.

Arts Project

We are delighted to be working on an outdoor, art sculpture with Year 2, Heather (Hetti's mum) and Martin, our resident ceramic artist. You may remember Year 2 families donated scrap metal items in the autumn term and these have been transformed into "arms" to represent our six, growth mindset learning behaviours. The children have designed ceramic characters to adorn the arms and the project is nearing completion. We hope the installation process will begin on Saturday 16 and 23 June and all willing volunteers are asked to make contact with Heather. A grand unveiling is expected before the end of term!

Parent Association - Circus

The circus is coming on Saturday 30 June and tickets will be available very soon! Money raised helps subsidise trips and special events for ALL the children. The Governing Body and PA are each purchasing a family ticket to reward two children for rapidly improving and good attendance respectively.

Children were asked to design a poster advertising the event and the winner is Elsie in Ash Class. Congratulations! Elsie wins a family ticket for the Circus - enjoy! Runners up are Amelia and James (Oak Class), Henry (Elm Class), Anastacia & Diya (Beech Class), Aurelia (Willow Class) and Jayden (Cedar Class) Congratulations to them all!

Family feedback – Coffee and chats on Wednesday 13 June at 9.00am

Miss Johnson from the Junior School and I look forward to meeting you for a catch up. The meeting will be held in the Junior Dining Hall and the focus is on transition and improving links between both schools. Do make time to come along or pop your comments and ideas in an email via office@alderton-inf.essex.sch.uk.

Sports Morning – now planned for Monday 18 June (weather allowing!)

The morning involves up to an hour of events for your child's class. Every child needs a full PE kit, including plimsolls. Please apply sun protection before school. The children should also have a named bottle of water in school on that day (and indeed every day) to keep their fluids up. Please remember that it has to be water only, otherwise we will have ants! The PA also supply refreshments for the children on sports morning. Events will be held on the Junior School field and anticipated start times are: Reception at 9.10am, Year 1 at 10.00am and Year 2 at 11.00am.

Attendance

Every lesson missed is a lost opportunity and good attendance makes a significant difference to a child's attainment and progress. It is frustrating that pupils with SEND and / or Pupil Premium entitlement continue to have lower attendance than others. Why is this? To May 25th our figures are:

All pupils	95.92%
Year 2	96.31%
Year 1	95.70%
Reception	95.75%
Pupils receiving SEND support	94.43%
Pupils Pupil Premium entitlement	93.57%

In cases where families need additional support to improve attendance we will involve our Family Support Worker Karen Bowden, School Nurse Maria Barnard and Essex MECES. We also undertake home visits where we cannot make contact with families. Holidays must be taken in school closure periods and calendar dates are on our website to 2020! The Governing Body is clear that no leave is authorised, including during the busy assessment period of May and June, or indeed in September.

Health and Safety

Please keep your children near you and within sight at all times. Local roads, pavements and pathways are congested at peak times. The grass bank is out of bounds as it is steep & slippery. The School Crossing Patrol on Oakwood Hill will be unavailable next week so do take extra care.

GDPR and Privacy Notice

As part of our General Data Protection Regulation compliance process we have issued each family with a consent form. Thank you if you have already returned it. Can all forms be returned by Friday 8 June please. As we move to Academy status we have reviewed our Privacy Policy and it is on our website for your information.

Hobbycraft

Hobbycraft is launching a campaign to get all children sewing, challenging each child to be able to sew a button on. The campaign is supported by former Blue Peter presenter, Janet Ellis, who was in school for a photocall before half term. Lime Class did a fantastic job sewing on their buttons and some stunning photos are on our website. Thank you to Hobbycraft for the free sewing kit basket!

Yours sincerely,

S. A. Dalby
Headteacher