Cheddington Combined School





Thursday, 28 September 2017

Head Teacher's Remarks

Stars of the Week Next Week's Reminders Year 2 Book Review Parent Consultations Book Fair Communication Commitment Photos by Carrie PTA AGM Bag2School It seems incredible that we are almost in October already – the children are so busy with their learning and excited by the new topics that the days are literally flying by! We are really pleased to see the pride the children are taking in their work and presentation. Clubs are now all running and the children seem to be enjoying their choices.

It was lovely to see Reception parents on Wednesday afternoon. We do hope you found the information useful. The children are often so busy during the day that they do not want to share when they get home.

Please could I ask all parents to follow our break-time snacks policy. As I explained in the first newsletter of the term, the Government require schools to encourage and educate children in healthy life choices. Following decisions by the School Council, break-time snacks must be fresh or plain dried fruit or vegetables <u>only</u> on Monday to Thursday. All KS1 children have access to this as part of the 'Fruit for Schools' scheme. On a Friday other snacks are permitted, but please not too unhealthy! Problems of children's diets continue to be a feature of press coverage, and we are held to account for the way we encourage the children to learn good life choices. Likewise if your child is bringing a packed lunch, please note that we do allow a chocolate covered biscuit (such as Penguin or Kit Kat) but not a chocolate bar (such as Mars or Milky Way) as part of a balanced lunch. I must also remind you that for the safety of the children in school with allergies, we are a nut free environment. Thank you for your support with this – it is a challenge to fulfil government expectations of education whilst respecting parenting decisions!

Buckinghamshire County Council are currently running a consultation on developing an Education and Skills Strategy. I am part of the reference group for these discussions, and have been strongly stating the primary perspective. The consultation can be found at <u>https://</u> <u>democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/mgConsultationDisplay.aspx?ID=3294</u> and I would encourage you all to contribute your views by the closing date of 24th October. This strategy will set the course of education in Buckinghamshire over the coming years.

You should have received your information pack about the Parent Governor election yesterday. Please do take the time to read the message from Dr Aulton and the information provided by the candidates prior to casting your vote. As outlined in the County information for School Governors, Governors play an important role making collective decisions which help to set the direction of development of the school; and in supporting and questioning, whilst respecting the Head Teacher's position as the professional leader of the school. Votes must be returned by 8:45am on Friday 13th October.

Next Tuesday evening is the PTA AGM. Please could I encourage as many of you as possible to come along to the school hall at 7:30pm. Our PTA has always been a fantastic support to the school – purchasing annually recorders for Y3 and dictionaries for Y6 leavers; fund raising for big projects such as the new adventure equipment, and now the pond renovation; offering fun activities for the children – disco's, cake sales, ice cream Fridays, (and refreshments for adults at Sports Day); as well as organising specific fund raising events such as the Christmas and Village Fetes, Bags2Schools, photos with Carrie and recycling. Many of our amazing parents who have organised these events have children who are almost reaching the end of their time at Cheddington, and we desperately need new members on the Committee and people who would be prepared to commit to maybe just one event. Without your help the PTA will no longer be able to support the provision for all of your children. We do hope to see you on Tuesday.

We are grateful to those of you who have already indicated that you would like to support the children next Thursday at Harvest. We have seats available, so do contact the office early next week if you would like to come and share this celebration with us. We are requesting that the children bring a small monetary donation (in cash) which the children have decided to donate to the Children's Hurricane Relief Fund operated by Save the Children. Thank you for your support.

Lastly later in this newsletter is a copy of our Communication Commitment. We will make every effort to meet this, and ask that you take a moment to read through so that you are also aware of appropriate time-scales. Thank you.

Mrs K. Tamlyn Head Teacher

Congratulations to our special stars this week who are:

- from YR: Penny Brown and Ronan Concanon
- from Y1: Fleur Nathan and Daisy Redding
- from Y2: Sebastian Craft and Ellie O'Dwyer
- from Y3: Daniel Bryant and Finn Concanon
- from Y4: Max Lacey and Denny McKerrell
- from Y5: Elliot Curran and Victoria Daly
- from Y6: Georgia Kearvell and Rory Keen

We are celebrating our Special Stars this year by each child having a gold star badge to wear during the following week. These badges should be worn with pride, and returned to their class teacher on the Friday morning ready to be given to the next child. Thank you for your help and support with this.

Next Week's Reminders

Monday, 2nd October - Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 - Flu Vaccination

Year 2 – Book Review As part of our RE unit this term the children will be writing a book review on their favourite book. Please could your child remember to bring in a favourite book from home, one that is named and which you are happy to stay in their school drawer for 2 weeks. Books should be in by Wednesday 11th October. Many thanks, Mrs Davies

PARENT CONSULTATION EVENINGS - 17 and 19 OCTOBER 2017

Dear Parents,

Would you please indicate on the slip provided, the days and times you would be able to attend this consultation with your child(ren)'s teacher. It would be most helpful if you could indicate these with a 'tick'.

If there are any times you are unable to attend, please mark these on the list with a cross.

Could you write the name(s) and class(es) of your child(ren) where indicated, and return the attached form via the <u>eldest child</u> in the family. Consecutive appointments can then be arranged where possible. This year we have added a new earlier time slot to give parents more flexibility and therefore, appointments outside of these times will not be possible.

The Book Fair will be 'open' for your perusal on 17 October from 3.20pm to 6pm and on 19 October from 6.00pm to 8.30pm.

Yours sincerely,

K Tamlyn Head Teacher

To: Cheddington School Class Teachers							
PARENT CONSULTATION EVENINGS							
Child's name							
Child's name							
Child's name							
		Х	Between 3.20pm &	Between 4.30pm &	Between 5.10pm &		
			4.30pm	5.10pm	6pm		
	Tuesday						
	17th October	х					
		Between 1.45pm &	Between 6pm &	Between 6.50pm &	Between 7.45pm &		
		3.30pm	6.50pm	7.45pm	8.30pm		
	Thursday						
	19th October						

Book Fair: 16 - 20 October 2017

Our selection of books this term will be from Travelling Books, which always provides an excellent range of reading material. Do take this opportunity to visit the Fair and stock up on your children's reading material either after school or during Parent Consultation. We are introducing an opportunity to pay by phone for those who would prefer this method of payment and details will be available at the Fair.

Thank you once again to all those parents who support the Book Fairs. As always, books which are received as commission will be added to the Library stock. Children will be bringing home a Book Fair Leaflet which contains a selection of special offer books.

We would be grateful, as usual, for help in supervising the Fair. If you are able to help for all or part of a session, please indicate on the attached slip, and return it to Mrs Dance (School Office) on Monday, 9th October 2016.

BOOK FAIR 16 - 20 October 2017

To: Mrs Craft (via school office)

I am able to help at the undernoted Bookfair sessions.

	16.10	17.10	18.10	19.10	20.10
3.15 - 3.45pm		ххх		ххх	
3.30 - 6pm	XXX		XXX	XXX	ХХХ
6.00 - 8.30pm	ХХХ	XXX	XXX		ХХХ

Name: Tel No:

Cheddington Combined School Communication Commitment

At Cheddington Combined School we make every effort to ensure that the values and attitudes we hold are reflected in our interactions with the children, each other as colleagues, the parents, the governors and any visitors to our school. Our intention is to offer exceptional quality of service through the promotion of a positive and welcoming environment that respects everyone. Our commitment assists staff in knowing how to act and stakeholders in knowing what to expect.

We hold each other and ourselves accountable for the delivery of our charter, remembering that our attitude, verbal language, body language, tone of voice, level of interest and action all demonstrate our level of care.

Phone communication: We will:

- * Make every effort to ensure that phone calls are answered as promptly as possible, ideally within six rings.
- * Answer in a friendly manner, which reflects our normal school interactions. *(e.g. Good morning/afternoon. Cheddington Combined School; how may I help you?)*
- * Listen carefully to the caller's request and assist accordingly.
- * Allow callers to express themselves without interrupting.
- * Keep waiting times to a minimum; explaining any possible delay and offering to arrange a return call if that would be preferable to the caller waiting on hold.
- * Take messages as needed ensuring the date and time of the call, the name of the caller, company (if appropriate), return contact number and any details of a message are recorded clearly. These will be passed to the relevant colleague as soon as possible.
- * Always thank the caller for their call.
- * On receipt of a telephone message, return the call as promptly as possible within at least 24 hours (other than calls received on a Friday afternoon). Should investigation time be required the call will still be returned within this time frame and an explanation given of when they will be contacted with an outcome to their query.

E-mail communication: We will:

- * Respond to e-mail messages within at least two working days.
- * Personalise any e-mail response using the name of the person and referencing their question/request. Staff will send any response to a parent query via the office who will copy it onto a response as it is not practicable for parents to be able to contact staff direct.
- * When referencing the school website a link will be included in the response.

Written communication (letters): We will:

- * Respond in a timely manner, ideally within two working days.
- * Always use the school headed paper for a written response.
- * Where a substantive response is not possible within two days, we will contact you to tell you why and who is dealing with your request.

Written communication(home school book/planners): We will:

* Respond in a timely manner, ideally within 24 hours.

Visitors: We will:

- * Welcome everyone with a smile and a positive friendly greeting.
- * Treat all visitors with respect and remain courteous throughout any interaction.
- * Maintain eye contact and speak clearly and in plain English, avoiding using slang or abbreviations that may not be understood.
- * Ensure all visitors entering the building have signed in and been given a visitor lanyard.
- * Ask parents to wait in the seating area until the staff they are visiting collect them.
- * Ask company representatives for identification (preferably photo ID) prior to being granted access to the building.
- * Ensure that all visitors are asked to return their lanyard and sign out on leaving the premises.
- * Ensure any visitors are given specific directions should they need to be referred to another location.

Difficult situations: We will:

- * Not accept violence, abuse or threatening behaviour toward our staff or other school users. Any such acts will be dealt with appropriately, including parents/visitors being asked to leave the school site immediately. We reserve the right to inform the Police.
- * Allow people to express their concerns by listening before speaking.
- * Empathise with the individual without argument.
- * Maintain a professional demeanour at all times.
- * Repeat and rephrase what the individual has said to make sure we correctly understand the situation from their perspective.
- * Refrain from assigning blame.
- * Focus on providing positive options and alternatives.
- * Refer the individual to a colleague with a higher level of authority if a resolution cannot be reached.
- * Thank the individual for bringing the situation to our attention.
- * Ensure that all colleagues potentially affected by the matter are informed of the situation as soon as possible.

Policy implementation: We will:

- * Ensure that all policies are consistently adhered to.
- * Ensure that our behaviour policy is clear to the children, is correctly implemented, and communicate with parents promptly should there be any cause for concern.
- * Ensure that our homework policy is clear to children and parents, and is implemented accordingly.
- * Should a change of homework occur this will be communicated (*e.g. should no homework be set one week this will be noted in the home-school book*).
- * Ensure clear follow-up of any concerns raised at Parent Consultation Meetings.

Photography by Carrie

Carrie Beddall, a family photographer is offering a photography shoot for you & your family at school on **Saturday 4th November.**

The cost for a sitting is just **£5**, (non-refundable). The sessions can be for just children, the entire family, grandparents etc. (animals can be accommodated, but <u>only at the end of the afternoon session</u>).

There will then be the opportunity to purchase a range of prints/packages from Carrie afterwards. (Price List will be sent via Joinos or emailed on request to PTA email below).

Sessions will be either 15 or 20 mins depending on number of participants.

If you would be interested in booking a slot, then please indicate below in order of preference e.g. 1,2, 3 etc which time slot would suit you.

Please return your <u>form with payment</u> in an envelope, marked 'PTA Photography' to the school office. (Cheques made payable to: Cheddington School PTA)

Upon receipt of the form and payment, you will be emailed with confirmation of your allocated time slot, within your preferred hour. In the event you are unhappy with a time slot, please let us know, and if we cannot accommodate you, your payment will be returned.

Please note: due to high demand, bookings will only be accepted upon receipt of your booking form and payment.

All places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

If you need any further information, please contact us on: cheddingtonpta@gmail.com

Many thanks

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Photographybycarie could infoedboord applybycarie could applybycarie could infoedboord applybycarie could applybycarie c

Please contact cheddingtonpta@gmail.com to make your booking A £5 sitting fee is payable to confirm your booking Limited availability so please book early





Photography by Carrie

Protographed with 07770 862257 www.photographybycarrie.co.uk info@photographybycarrie.co.uk				
Pack A - 1 10" x 8" 2 5" x 7"		£34		
Pack B - 1 10" x 8" 2 5" x 7" 4 2.5" x 3.5" (same image)		£46		
Pack D - 2 10"x8" 2 7"x5"		£49		
Pack C - 1 10"x8" 2 7"x5" 4 5"x4" (same image)	*family pack*	£54		
Pack E - 5 7" x 5"	*value pack *	£44		
Pack F - 4 10"x8"	*value pack *	£66		
Panoramic Framed Portrait				
Digital individual images (up to 5 images) Digital individual images (up to 15 images) Digital individual images (up to 25 images) (CD's are high res images. They do not include the panorami				
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Additional products t	o add to your orders	
Keyrings		£7
Buy 4 (same image)	Save £4	£24

Please note this price list is only applicable for schools and nursery's for the family day, for private sittings the portrait price list will apply. Canvases are also available

<u>PTA AGM</u>

A final reminder that the PTA AGM will take place on Tuesday 3rd October at 7.30pm in the school hall. We would encourage everyone to attend as it gives us the opportunity to report back on our previous fundraising efforts & discuss future ideas for raising money for the children. We look forward to seeing you there!

Bag2School

Please remember to leave any filled 'bag2school' bags at the rear gate before 9am on Tuesday 3rd October.

Many thanks in advance.