

Dear Parents,

This half term is flying by – it seems slightly unreal that we are now into October. The children are producing some very good learning, and it has been lovely to see their enthusiasm and engagement.

School News:

Y3 visited Hazard Alley last Wednesday, where they learned so much about being safe in a variety of settings. The children were so excited to share what they had learned and can now apply to their day to day experiences.

It was lovely to welcome Y4 parents to the assembly last Friday, when the children shared their experiences from their residential visit to Woodrow High House. They had such a wonderful time.

Y6 children and their parents met with the Head of the River Dart Centre on Wednesday this week after school to hear about the amazing opportunities available on this residential visit in the summer term 2023. Paperwork regarding this will be sent out in due course.

As mentioned in the last newsletter we thank those parents who have been able to make the voluntary termly contribution of £10. If you are able contribute but have not yet done so, please do when you have a moment. Thank you.

We do hope you were pleased with the photos of the children. As you will be aware the ordering process is online and the photos will be back in plenty of time to be shared for the festive season.

It is the season of colds, flu and other illnesses and this has already impacted the children and the staff. We wish all who are unwell a swift recovery. As a school we have clear protocols to ensure the children are able to effectively continue their learning in the event of staff illness. We thank you for your continued support.

Harvest:

On Friday 21st October, Y3 are presenting a Harvest assembly to the school and to their parents. As part of this assembly, and part of our community involvement, we would like to invite you – if you are able to – to donate an item for the local food bank. Tinned and dried goods are ideal due to their long shelf life. If you feel you are able to donate an item, please could your child bring it into school from Monday 17th October and place it into the box by the fish tank. Thank you.

Parent volunteers:

As mentioned in the previous newsletter we are pleased to be able to reintroduce parent involvement. Thank you to those parents who have already responded, and I will be in touch very soon.

I am repeating the information in this newsletter in case you missed it last time.

If any parents are available on a regular basis to help listen to children read. This would not be with your own child's class, but would very much help to support the children and the staff. If you are able to consider this, please could you send an email to admin@cheddington.bucks.sch.uk headed READING. We will then be in touch. Thank you.

Also, we are seeking to reinstate our Representative Parent Group. This is a volunteer non-elected group of parents whose children are of ages such that the full age range of the school is represented. The Terms of Reference are as follows:

Mandate:

The group offer a valuable opportunity for the Head Teacher and a representative from the Governing Body to discuss and receive direct parent comment on issues to be determined by the Head Teacher and Governing Body. This comment will feed into the School Development Plan where appropriate.

Protocols:

- *Meetings are held termly or half-termly dependent on the requirement of issues to be discussed.*
- *Meeting format is group discussion in small groups to be followed by whole RPG feedback session to the Head Teacher.*
- *It is appropriate for the RPG to share any 'playground conversation concerns' with the Head Teacher to ensure communication is a two-way process. However, it is important that the normal parent-school communications routes are not disregarded.*
- *Questions which arise between meetings can be e-mailed by the Head Teacher to the Group who will then be requested to respond by e-mail to the Head Teacher.*

Confidentiality:

All discussion items and shared information may be discussed with the wider parent body unless specified by the Head Teacher that they should be treated in confidence.

If you are interested in being part of this group, then please could you email admin@cheddington.bucks.sch.uk headed RPG by Wednesday 12th October at the latest. (Should we have too large a group expressing interest then names will be drawn at random whilst ensuring the age range of the school is represented. Should the group be too small, then it may not be considered 'representative' and we will have to re-consider this.)

PTA News:

The AGM was well attended which was very encouraging. The money raised last year is shown on the noticeboard outside Y1 classroom, and is a wonderful total. Thank you to everyone who has supported the fundraising efforts. There are exciting plans afoot!

This coming Saturday is the PTA Family Photos, for which there has been a good response to this.

The deadline for Christmas Card orders is next week – please do action this as soon as possible if you wish to place an order.

Advance notice to 'save the date' of Saturday 26th November for the Christmas Market. This will offer some great Christmas gift shopping opportunities as well as treats and refreshments.

Upcoming dates:

The dates of most events are still being finalised, but please note:

Saturday 8th October – Family Photo opportunity in the school hall organised by the PTA.

Wednesday 19th October – PTA spooky cake sale after school.

Friday 21st October – PTA Hallowe'en dress down day for a voluntary donation.

Friday 21st October – Y3 Parents are invited to a special assembly provisionally at 2:40pm.

Tuesday 1st November and Thursday 3rd November - this term's Parent Consultation Meetings, which will be on-line meetings as usual.

Thank you to all parents for your continued support of the children and the school.

Mrs K. Tamlyn
Head Teacher