

# Parentmail Bulletin – 5<sup>th</sup> October 2017

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**"Enjoy, aspire and achieve together to be the best that we can be."**

## **Harvest Festival**

It was lovely to see the church filled with parents/carers and children joining together to celebrate harvest on Monday – thank you very much for your great support and presence. It is lovely for the children to have such a great crowd around and also for the staff to be so encouraged by this level of support. Thank you for all the food donations that have been given to the local food bank through the Church's Food Bank link. Thanks also to Rev Richard and All Saint's Parish Church for hosting the event.

## **Grand Opening**

You did us proud with the great attendance at the Open Afternoon and the crowds who came to see our lovely new Pixie's Pre School facilities and great staff. Do please pass the word on as we look to grow the size of the Pixie's class in the coming months.

## **Open Morning for Parents of Prospective Shillington Pupils Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

We should also be very grateful if friends and family could spread the word that our Open Morning for prospective pupils is on the Tuesday immediately after half-term. We will be advertising this with posters locally and via local social media, but these are not as effective in the end as our own parents and families.

Of course the school is happy to receive visitors enquiring about places across all year groups at other times, but this is a key moment for letting people see the school in full flow and getting a taste of why it is such a good place for children to start their great educational journey.

## **Values**

Our current value is Equality. We will be thinking about this fundamental value with the children in a wide variety of ways. This can be looking at the core meaning - *Making sure everyone is treated fairly* But we can also pick up on Martin Luther King's very famous dream –

"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin, but by the content of their character."

President Jimmy Carter also gave us a lovely image to consider –

"We become not a melting pot, but a beautiful mosaic. Different people, different beliefs, different yearnings, different hopes and different dreams."

The heart of Values Education is about encouraging reflection and helping develop understanding and ideas in the children around Values that are very important in all our lives. The impact of this part of school life is vastly enhanced if families are able to spot your own moments of reflection or ideas on the current school Value.

We should also be delighted to hear of news where parents and families have seen their child exhibit the current Value in a notable way.

## **Gate into school – no parents onto site via the side gate**

We had another incident this week where a parent came into the main school building via the side gate. It may seem so simple to just drop in through that route and pick up a forgotten lunch box, but it is very important that this does not happen.

## **Always come to the front office, where of course we will be delighted to help.**

The crucial issue is that it is a fundamental element of fire safety and safeguarding practice for children in schools that we do not have unaccompanied adults in the building even for just a couple of minutes.

## **Author Visit**

We have been very fortunate to secure a visit from author Gillian Overitt, on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October. She will talk to the children about her work and the books she has written. Please see flyer in book bags today for the opportunity to purchase her books, which she will personally sign. (The latest we can accept these is the morning of 10<sup>th</sup> Oct).

### **Home-School-Child Agreement**

Thank you very much for all the returned Agreements already received. The deadline for the return of the Home-School-Child agreement is today, Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Structured Conversations**

We look forward to seeing you at our forthcoming parent consultations that start next week; Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October. We will be following a structured conversation format and giving much more time to parental voice. Appointments slips are being sent home via your child. When you arrive for your scheduled appointment time parents should wait in the library – the class teacher will collect you from there. We request that children do not attend these meetings – if this is proving difficult, please let the office know to discuss options regarding this.

### **PTFA Disco**

Our PTFA are holding a disco on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October. Rainbows and Year 1 disco will run from 2.30 – 3.20pm, there is no charge for these years as the disco will run during school hours however donations would be welcomed.

Years 2, 3 & 4 disco will run 3.40pm – 4.30pm and will cost £2 per child.

### **Old Style £1 Coins**

Unfortunately the office are no longer able to accept the old style £1 coins.

### **Top Table**

Mr Haddon was joined at top table on Monday by the following pupils who were chosen for their exemplary behaviour and values:

*Ethan, Thea, Amy, Lily, Ayrton, Maisie, Harry T, Harry M, Benedict, Callum.*

He reports a delightfully animated range of conversations! Well done all.

### **Shillington Superstars**

*Rainbows – Thea  
Unicorns – Sebastian  
Dragons – Lily  
Centaur – Natalie  
Phoenix – Katie*

### **Dates for your diary**

11 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Structured conversations
17 <sup>th</sup> / 19 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Structured conversations
17 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Individual/sibling photos
20 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Last day of this half-term

*23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> October – Half-Term*

*30<sup>th</sup> October – School closed – Staff Training*

31 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Open morning for prospective parents 2017
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8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Y3 trip to St Albans
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7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Whole school trip to Panto
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26 <sup>th</sup> –28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Year 4 to PGL Claythorpe
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### **Term Dates**

#### **Autumn Term 2017**

Tuesday 5th Sept 2017 – Tuesday 19th Dec 2017

(Half term 23rd – 27th Oct)

**INSET DAY 30th Oct – school closed**

#### **Spring Term 2018**

Wednesday 3rd Jan 2018 – Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018

(Half term 12th – 16th Feb)

#### **Summer Term 2018**

Tuesday 17th Apr 2018 – Friday 20th Jul 2018

(Half term 28th May – 1st June)

**May Day – 7th May 2018 – school closed**

**Our current value is "Equality."**