



Monday 26th September

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

School Improvement

Schools are always striving to develop the offer for their pupils. This year, we have several key aims. Reading standards are very good across the school but we want to look further at how we develop pupil's enjoyment of reading and how this can improve progress for all pupils. Phonics teaching and standards are also very good and we want to ensure we continue our good practice as we roll out our new government validated phonics scheme in the Early Years and Year 1. The impact of the pandemic has been reflected most keenly in children's writing progress and their social development. We want more children to achieve the expected and higher standards in their writing at the end of each year, so we shall be reviewing and improving how we teach writing. We shall also continue to develop our school behaviour policy and pastoral offer, particularly at lunchtimes, and our enriched curriculum, to support the pupils' personal development.

Cycle To School Week

Next Week is 'Cycle to School Week' organised by The Bikeability Trust and Sustrans. During this week we encourage all children and their families to dust off their bikes and try to achieve one of these targets: Cycle to school everyday; swop at least one car journey for cycling; go cycling with your family; discover somewhere new on a cycle ride. There are several bike stands inside the school grounds where bikes can be left for the day. The children will need to wear a cycle helmet.

The Bikeability Trust also offer Free Family Cycle Training for residents of the borough who are looking to take up cycling or improve their confidence and skills. [Visit the Bikeright website for more information and to sign up](#)

Governing Board Position

Our successful governing board is looking to recruit new members with expertise in business and/or finance. Governors typically meet six times a year and have a role in full board meetings and a position on a subcommittee such as 'Curriculum' or 'HR and Finance'. It is a great opportunity to learn more about the workings of the school, to contribute with your own expertise and experiences, and to offer professional support and challenge to the leadership of the school. If you think you might be interested, or know someone else who might be, and would like further information about the role and the commitment involved, please get in touch for an informal chat.

Middy Assistant Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a Middy Assistant. The role involves working with other MDA colleagues to support the children throughout lunchtime and includes supervision in the dining hall, supervising and leading play outside, basic first aid duties and being a friendly face for the children. The MDAs are a friendly team with lots of experience who will be more than happy to welcome and support a new colleague. Please get in touch with the school office if you would like further information.

Nut Free School - Allergies and Intolerances

Please return the data collection sheets as soon as you can so we can update your child's records. There are several children in school with severe nut allergies so please support these children and their families by not sending in any nut products in packed lunches or for break time snacks.

PTA Cake Sale

The PTA Cake Sale is after school on Friday in the playground so bring some cash and an empty stomach! If you would like to donate some cakes for the PTA to sell, please send them into school on Friday morning with your child.

Mrs Little

We are sad to say goodbye to Mrs Little who is leaving us this week as she is relocating to live closer to her family in the South. We are very grateful to Mrs Little for all her hard work in varied roles as Teacher, Teaching Assistant and ELSA. She will be missed and we wish her and her family all the best.

Walking To and From School

We strongly discourage all children below Year 6 from walking to and from school on their own. If your child is in Year 6 and you decide you want them to start having more responsibility for their journey, it is recommended that you take the time to talk about the risks they may face walking unattended and make sure they are comfortable doing so. Practice the route with them and make sure they have an alternative should the first be unavailable. There are permission forms to allow children to walk home which will need completing before they can leave the site. These will be circulated to the relevant families.

Residential Visits

Over the last two weeks the children in Year 3 and Year 6 have enjoyed some very active, fun, wet and tiring days and nights away with their teachers and classmates. We feel very proud of all the children for their positive attitudes, kind behaviours and great manners when they've been away. Thank you to all the staff and volunteers who gave up their time to allow these visits to happen. I'm sure Year 4 are feeling very excited about their overnight trip to Delamere next week!

Harvest Singing Celebration and Food Donation for Mid Cheshire Foodbank

Mid Cheshire Foodbank collects donations of food and redistributes them to families in food crisis across Northwich and Winsford. With the cost of living rising, this service is being used more and more frequently and their stored stock is only 25% of what it was 6 months ago. This Harvest time we would like to support families in need across our local area by requesting donations of food for redistribution.

To mark the time of year, and to encourage donations, we are holding some short Harvest Singing Celebration assemblies. The dates and times are as follows and you are welcome to attend your child's event. Please limit your attendance to 2 people per child. Collection will be at the normal time on these days.

Nursery (stay for a play and join in some songs)

Monday 17th October at 11.15am or 2.30pm in the Nursery classroom. Entrance through the school office

Reception, Year 1, Year 5 and Year 6

Tuesday 18th October at 2.40pm in the Dane Hall. Entrance through the school field.

Year 2, Year 3, and Year 4

Thursday 20th October at 2.40pm in the Dane Hall. Entrance from the school field.

Please send donations to school in the last week of this half term (Monday 17th October onwards). Suitable donations:

- * Meat spreads/ sandwich spreads/ marmite (savoury spreads) * Tinned vegetables
- Teabags • Coffee • UHT Milk • Fruit juice • Biscuits • Pasta sauce • Tinned tomatoes • Tinned soup • Rice
 - Tinned fruit • Store cupboard essentials - Tomato/Brown Sauce, Stock Cubes, Vinegar, Gravy Granules, Tomato Puree, Cooking Oil • Washing Up Liquid • Cleaning Spray • Toilet rolls • Sanitary towels • Shaving foam/ razors

We hope to see you there,

Your sincerely,

Mr Rob Cole
(Headteacher)

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