

Resilience

Newsletter 1 – 8th Sept 2017
‘We are resilient and celebrate all our efforts.’

Diary Dates

Y1 Teacher Year Overview Meeting with Parents
Y6 Visit to Sevington Victorian School
Y5 Visit to Sevington Victorian School

Monday 11th September
Thursday 21st September
Friday 22nd September

INSET Days

Friday 1st September 2017
Monday 30th October 2017
Tuesday 31st October 2017
Monday 18th December 2017
Friday 9th February 2018

Headteacher's News

We have had a super start to our new school year with a very smart set of children coming in eager and ready to learn. Our new Reception children in Cherry class have been bouncing in, full of excitement and eagerness. There is only one brand new face amongst the staff this year; a warm welcome to Miss Caitlin Ford who has joined us as the new teacher of Lime Y3 Class. We have had two new pupils join us; we welcome Mya Y5 and Ivan Y3 to our Courtney family. We are sad to be saying goodbye to Dorothy in Y1 but know that she will be an asset to her new school. It has been lovely to see so many of you at the Meet the Teacher events (just Oak Y1 class to go). Any information which was shared will be put on the website as soon as we can. Look out on the website for each year group's curriculum overview which should be on our website very soon. And finally, thank you to those of you who contributed to our Parent Survey at the end of last term. We are already using your feedback to help make Courtney Primary even better.

D Wood

This week's Crown Values Certificates awarded to:

Year 1 Oak: Dorothy
Year 2 Ash: Caitlyn
Year 3 Lime: George
Year 4 Maple: Dylan
Year 5 Sycamore: Mya
Year 6 Cedar: Hari-Deep



Attendance Total 95.7%

YR Cherry 100.0%
Y1 Oak 94.8%
Y2 Ash 94.3%
Y3 Lime 94.8%
Y4 Maple 95.7%
Y5 Sycamore 95.0%
Y6 Cedar 98.3%



Food For Life Served Here Silver Award

We pride ourselves on our use of fresh, local ingredients, therefore I'm delighted to announce that we have been awarded the Soil Association's Silver 'Food for Life Served Here' award. This is a recognised industry standard that demonstrates that our school food offer is ethical, sustainable and fresh, free from nasty additives and trans fats and meets school food standards. The silver award acknowledges our use of seasonal ingredients, with menus that are at least 75% freshly prepared from scratch or on site or in a local kitchen and that all our meat is Red Tractor farm assured. Kevin Ford has been in touch with those who use our catering services to ask for your support in promoting the good news to parents and we appreciate your support.

School Games

We are very proud to announce that Courtney has been awarded the Bronze School Games Mark award for their commitment, engagement and delivery of competitive school sport in 2016/17. Well done everyone and in particular Mr Jones and Mr Smith who lead our sport in school.



Dropping Off and Collecting

In order to keep everyone feeling and being safe and comfortable at key busy times here is a reminder of our rules for the children when dropping off and collecting:

- Cycles and scooters should be pushed once the grounds have been entered (this includes pre-school children)
- Anyone riding to school on a bike needs to be wearing a helmet
- Play equipment ie the slide, swing, sand pit is out of bounds
- Ball games are not allowed

Please note that from next week, we will be locking the gates at about 3:30pm so that the After School Clubs staff can keep their children safe.

Clubs

In the Parent Survey, you said,

"We would like some clubs which add to those which are sports based."

Our response:

This term we have added a Drawing and Painting Club, a Film Club and a Cookery Club to our list.

You said,

"We would like the sports clubs to be more skills based."

Our response:

The after school sports clubs will have a stronger emphasis on developing a range of skills.

Because we were trying to get clubs started as soon as possible, this had led to the setting up of the clubs being a little too rushed. Next year, we will learn from this experience and give ourselves and you a little longer.



PTA AGM FRIDAY 15th SEPTEMBER

The PTA would like to welcome all parents to the PTA AGM. If you haven't been involved before or if your child has just joined the school, you will be very welcome! Refreshments are provided and children can be left in Out of School Club for the cost of 50p (to cover snacks). Roles on the Committee will be appointed at the meeting. Consequently, if you do wish to put your name forward for a position, you will need to attend the meeting. The PTA is desperately short of volunteers and there is a danger that events won't run or the PTA will fold if it can't muster more support.

Please do come and join us!

HALLOWEEN DISCO – Friday 13th October

Save the date! The spooky Halloween Disco will be on Friday 13th October. Details to follow....



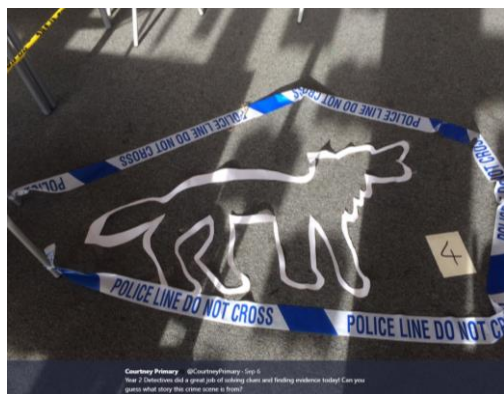
Healthy Snacks

In order to encourage the children to adopt healthy eating habits and to minimise the 'treat' times, we restrict the morning snack to fruit or toast. No child is allowed to eat chocolate or crisp-type items during morning playtime.

Dogs

We all love dogs but not at school. A polite reminder that dogs are not permitted onto the school grounds. This includes dogs being held as well as those on a lead.

What are you missing on Twitter? @CourtneyPrimary



Reception Class

Reception class would like any old kitchen equipment for their mud kitchen such as...baking trays, bun tins, loaf tins, pans, plastic or metal plates, bowls, beakers, jugs and cups, colanders, sieves, whisks, potato mashers, pestle and mortar, tea, coffee, sugar containers and old photo frames (bigger than 6x 4), thank you.

Reception 'All About Me' Topic

Our Topic this term is 'All About Me'. Please can you send in a family photo so the children can share it with the class. We would like to put them on display and we will return them at the end of term 1. (Please put your child's name on the back of the photo), Thank you

Out of School Club

Out of School Club is up and running at full speed! We have a technical glitch in adding reception to the register which should be resolved in the next day or so and then reception children will be able to book in online too.

There will be lots of exciting events planned so keep an eye out in the newsletter.

Please remember that you must collect your child from club by 17.45 at the latest.



Does your child qualify for Free School Meals / Pupil Premium?

Please think about whether your child might be entitled to Free School Meals. Even if they are in Key Stage 1 and their meals are free anyway, there is benefit to your child and the school by applying as the school will receive an additional £1,320 per pupil which can be used for vital extra resources to enable learning.

You may be entitled to Pupil Premium if:

- You have a low household income
- You receive particular benefits
- Your child is adopted
- You are a Forces family.

If you think you may be entitled, please contact the office and we can help with your application. Please be assured that we will treat any information you provide in confidence.



We just wanted to remind you that Courtney is part of an Alliance of schools which work together to improve outcomes for all of our children. Our RISE Alliance partners are: Redfield Edge, Cadbury Heath, Longwell Green and New Horizons.

Clothes Bank

We are still collecting any unwanted clothes, shoes, belts and bags. The school will receive money every time the bin is emptied. This money will be going towards outdoor play equipment. In addition, the clothes are sorted and sent to Africa where they are upcycled and sold in markets providing employment to individuals. Everyone is a winner so please do put in all your unwanted clothes, shoes belts or bags. There are bins at both entrances. Thank you!