



SPARKENHOE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 2015

'Together we can..'



Welcome back to another new school year.

We have had a lovely start to the term and welcomed many new children and parents in Foundation 1 and 2 as well as in other year groups. Children have made a really good start to their work and are quickly learning the new routines.

School Meals

All children in KS1 and foundation are able to have a free dinner in school as part of the government scheme. Milk is not included in this, so if FS/KS1 children want to have milk then this needs to be paid for in the office, unless they have a free school meals voucher. Children under 5 do not pay for milk. If your child did not have school dinners before the holiday and they now want to start, please let the office know.

The office needs a weeks notice for children to change to school dinners from packed lunch OR to packed lunch from school dinners. If you wish to change, please let the office know in writing. We do have forms available for this.

Milk money is 18p per day and 90p per week. For KS2 children who do not have a free school meal voucher, dinner money is £1.75 per day - £8.75 per week.

Please try to come to the office with the correct money or put it in an envelope in the dinner money box. Money put in an envelope does not need to be exact. Change will be sent home with your child or deducted from future payments. Dinner money can be paid between 8.30 am and 2.45 pm from Monday to Thursday and on Friday mornings. We cannot take dinner money on Friday afternoons.

Uniform

The children all look very smart in their Sparkenhoe uniforms. We have plenty of sweatshirts and fleeces in stock. At the moment cardigans are only available with the old logo but we should have these with the new logo in the next few weeks. The children should not wear red, grey or black tops but tops can be bought from other sources as long as they are the school colour. There are still some children who do not yet have plain footwear. Plain, dark trainer style shoes are widely available and are acceptable but trainers with stripes, logos and other colours are not.

For PE, children must have trainers (any colour) or plimsolls and will not be able to take part in these activities if they do not. Navy PE kit is available from school but can also be bought in local shops.

Please make sure all uniform and PE kit items are named.

Homework

Homework at Sparkenhoe for all children is daily reading, maths basic skills and half termly topic projects. Children complete Reading Miles cards and learn basic maths skills. The classes compete against each other to see who completes the most cards. The homework projects completed last year were amazing and we're looking forward to seeing the children's creations later this term.

Online payments

Over the next term, we will be introducing an online payment system for parents who wish to pay for dinner money, milk, trips and before/after school care electronically. Details of how to do this will be sent out when the system is fully set up. Hopefully this will make payments easier and reduce the long queues in reception.

School Crossing Patrol Service

The City Council have written to us to let us know that there will no longer be a service to help the children cross at the pelican crossing on Sparkenhoe Street. This means that there will be no crossing lady in the morning or after school. If your children go home on their own, please talk to them about the importance of using the crossing and waiting for the green man before crossing.

There are also quite a lot of cars parked illegally on Sparkenhoe Street at the end of the school day. We would like to remind parents that it is not appropriate to park on yellow lines or half on the pavement. It causes an obstruction to other road users and pedestrians and could incur a fixed penalty notice. Thank you for your support in these matters.

Dates for the diary

Monday 7 th September	Swimming starts for 5 Galileo
Wednesday 9 th September	Kimbles activity sessions for F2
Monday 21 st September	International day of Peace - activities in class
Week beginning Monday 28 th September	Cycling proficiency for Year 6 children
Thursday 1 st October	Parents Evening 1
Tuesday 6 th October	Parents Evening 2
Friday 9 th October	Rugby World Cup Whole School Outdoor Performance (Parents welcome) - 9.00 am
Friday 9 th October	Harvest Day activities in class for children
Friday 6 th October	School closes for half term
Monday 26 th October	School opens
Monday 2 nd November	Swimming starts for 5 Newton
Week beginning Monday 12 th October	Year 4 Diwali Assemblies (days to be confirmed)
Week beginning Monday 2 nd November	Year 6 Remembrance Assemblies (days to be confirmed)
Friday 6 th November	Diwali Festival Day: activities in class
Friday 13 th November	Children in Need
Week beginning Monday 23 rd November	Healthy Packed Lunch week
Thursday 3 rd to Sunday 6 th December	France residential (children in Years 4, 5 and 6)
Week beginning Monday 7 th December	F2 Nativity Assemblies (days to be confirmed)
Monday 14 th December	Christmas Festival Day activities in class
Week beginning Monday 14 th December	Attendance Assemblies/France assembly/Christmas parties
Thursday 17 th December	Flu inoculations (letters will be sent out nearer the time)
School closes for the Christmas holiday	Friday 18 th December
School opens for children	Tuesday 5 th January 2016

During November there will be cinema visits for the children. We will let you know about other trips and visits as they are booked.

All clubs will start on Monday 14th September and will finish on Friday 11th December.

All dates and times for festival assemblies will be sent out nearer the time.

We welcome your views and thoughts and are always around if you need to talk to us. There are suggestion boxes located both in Gopsall and Saxby entrance halls. If you would like to raise an issue or ask a question to a member of our Governing Body, please email govs@sparkenhoe.leicester.sch.uk. As always, you can make an appointment if you need to speak to a member of staff in private.

Rhian Jones *Acting Headteacher*