

# NEWSLETTER



12/07/16

Dear Parents,

We have now come to the end of another successful school year at Meon Infant School. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, your children, the Governors and the hard working staff at Meon for all their support. We all work so hard together to make this school the best it could possibly be and I know we all want that to continue for the children.

At the end of this year sadly Year 2 will be leaving us and we wish them good luck in the future and I am sure the Year 2 Parents will enjoy the Leavers Assembly next week. For other children who are leaving us we wish you good luck in your new school and thank you for spending what short time you have with us.



**CAKE SALES**

The Staff and I would like to thank you for your generosity with the Cake Sales and thank all those parents who have helped and provided cakes.



**CLASS LISTS**

This year, as usual, the children will be moving on as a whole class. They are as follows:

ORANGE Class will be moving to YELLOW Class with Mrs. Bailey/Mrs. Sykes

PURPLE Class will be moving to GREEN Class with Mrs. Greed/Mrs. Craig

YELLOW Class will be moving to BLUE Class with Miss Cox/Mrs. Cheshire

GREEN Class will be moving to RED Class with Mrs. Saunders/Mrs. Mundy

The children have met their "new" teacher today and will visit their new classrooms next week.

Other Staffing:

Mrs. Phillips will be in ORANGE Class for 3 days a week and Mrs Morey will be in ORANGE Class for 2 days

Miss Brown will continue with learning support and Music

Mrs Priston will continue with the ECAR programme.

Mrs Morey will be covering Preparation, Planning and Assessment Time and Teacher Non-Contact (2 Days)

Mrs. Ricketts will cover NCT for 1 day a week.

We are saying goodbye to 3 T.A.s - Mrs. Aylward, Mrs. Finn and Mrs. Savage. We thank them for all their hard work and wish them every success in their new jobs.



**COLLECTION OF CHILDREN**

As you are aware the school's policy on siblings/other children dropping off/collecting children to/from school is that the older child must be of at least Secondary School age and preferably above the age of 14. i.e. NOT junior school aged children. Written acknowledgement by the parents is requested before this may commence. This policy is also extended to collection from After School Activities.



**EXTRA SECURITY**

Due to the recent events in this country and across the world sadly the school has had to consider tighter security measures. I can assure parents that in the light of the terrible events we have reviewed our security systems to keep your children safe.

The teachers are now aware of what has to be done should someone enter the premises and whilst the children, at this point, have not practiced this they will be moved to a safe area of the classroom and the emergency services notified. I have told the children not to open the door to any adult without checking with a staff member and there is now a sign on the main door to keep it closed and not be left open. If a parent needs to go to the office we would appreciate them not using the classroom door but use the door to the right of the Hall. We have contacted Portsmouth City Council and they have completed an assessment of the security of the premises. We await their report. Unfortunately the school is currently not in a position to install CCTV.



## EVENTS

### FOMS:

Just a reminder the Summer Fair is this **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at 3.20 p.m.** A big thank you to F.O.M's for organising all the events throughout the year, as usual our "wish list" is endless! It really helps to raise funds for those extra special things the children have and do.

### DISCOS:

**Year 2 Leavers Disco:** Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July (see below for more details)

**Year R Disco:** Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. As this is a non-uniform day (see below) children may wear/bring their party clothes to school on this day. If children need to be changed this can be done in the classroom before the disco. Therefore there is no need to collect your child from school until 4.30 p.m. and this will be via the **playground gate** in Shelford Road from their classroom.

**Year 1 Disco:** Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 4.45 – 5.45 p.m. Children should enter via the **playground gate** in Shelford Road to their classroom. This is where they should be collected from at 5.45 p.m.



## HEALTH ISSUES

### MEDICINE:

Please may I remind you that the school is unable to administer any medicine that is not prescribed by the doctor/hospital e.g. Calpol. Also we can only give medicine if it is required 4 times a day. You are more than welcome to come into school if you feel your child needs medicine that the school cannot issue. Please remember to send in a dosage spoon/syringe with the bottle of medicine. Thank you.

## ✓ HOLIDAYS/ATTENDANCE ✓

Just a reminder for those of you who may be planning holidays etc. may I remind you of the school policy regarding taking children out of school during term time:

"We believe that children need to be in school for ALL sessions so that they can make the most progress. We are committed to providing all children in the school with the best opportunities to help them succeed. Our views follow the Government and PCC guidelines.

***NO holidays will be authorised by the Headteacher.***

If your child has 10 sessions (1 day = 2 sessions) of unauthorised absence the school will process the issuing a Fixed Penalty Notice Request. Holidays of a lesser period will be monitored.

A holiday form (LOAFs) **MUST** be completed **before** the holiday dates and parents can obtain these from the school office."

I attach a copy of next year's term dates for your information and to enable you to select dates for holidays during the holiday periods.

A reminder for parents whose children will be in Year 2 next year – the assessment process will take place during the first half of the summer term.

## LATENESS:

Please may I remind you that the school bell is rung at 8.50 a.m. Please ensure your child is in the playground by that time. Unfortunately we have had several children arriving late and this is very disruptive to the class teacher and also for the ordering of lunches etc. The registers are taken immediately the children are in class and your child will receive a late mark if they are not in on time.

If your child has a medical appointment, please remember to inform the school office as well as the class teacher. Thank you.

## ABSENCE:

May I also remind you that if your child is not coming to school because of illness please phone from 8.15 a.m. on the first day of absence. If the school has not heard by 10.00 a.m. a phone call will be made to ascertain reason for absence. This is in line with the safety policy.

## GATES:

In order to ensure the safety of your children the external school gates are locked at **9.00 a.m.** each day. Please ensure you have left the playground before this time or if not please exit through the main door in the school reception area. Late arrivals should enter through the main entrance in Shelford Road. Thank you.



For those mums and dads whose child will be leaving us to go to junior school, I would like to take the opportunity to say a big thank you for the support you have given to the school over the last three years. We will say “goodbye” with mixed feelings as we feel proud of the children’s achievements but also sad that their time with us has come to an end. I would like to wish all the children happiness and success in the future.

Red and Blue classes will be holding their “spectacular” Leavers Assembly on **Thursday 20th JULY** at 10.00 a.m. Parents of children in these classes are welcome to stay with the children afterwards for a drink and a biscuit. I am sure you will agree it will be a most tear jerking performance.

The Leavers Disco will also be held on this day (3.30 – 5.00p.m.). Tickets will be handed to the children prior to them attending the Disco. Children may bring their “Party clothes” to school on the day and change in the classroom. Therefore they do not need to be collected from school until 5.00 p.m. and this will be via the playground gate in Shelford Road and from their classroom.



May I issue one last plea for you to come in to look at lost property if your child has mislaid something. Most of the items are of very good quality and in good condition. Items not re-claimed by the end of term will be thrown away – what a waste!!

Please may I also ask **THAT YOU WRITE YOUR CHILD’S NAME IN THEIR SCHOOL UNIFORM**, especially the **new items**. This, hopefully, will eliminate the mass of lost property we acquire.



On **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July** we will be having a Non Uniform Day. We ask that you send in a donation of either money (£1) or a doggie toy which will be forwarded to the South West Boxer Dog Trust of which Jill Loader (office) is a member. The Trust has always greatly appreciated the donations made from this school. Jill will bring her boxer dogs in for the assembly on this day.



Thank you for taking the time to fill in the School Questionnaire (see end of newsletter for responses). These help to inform us of your views and where possible we try to accommodate them. I would like to thank those parents for the lovely comments you have written. Some of these have now been put up on the website.

On the whole the responses were quite positive however there are some issues I hope I can help with. We have a 3 week settling in period for the children in Year R and we do this to help the children to get to know their new Teacher, different children and other adults in the room. I think you will agree it is a very challenging time for young children and we admit them slowly to help in their transition. The school is constantly responding to requests to improve communication and the new digital notice board was purchased to help with this. It is also used in the classroom to stream programmes to enhance the curriculum. This has been purchased with ring fenced funding and we hope it will improve the curriculum and communication. The school does provide a second spoken language for the children and this is evident in the classrooms in the form of French Phrases. We used to run a French Club at Lunchtime, however the teacher found another job in the community so this had to cease. If any of you are aware of anyone who can offer this or any other club please let the office know. We endeavour run organise a varied range of clubs, however, we are reliant of availability of staff and outside providers. Thank you for your comments about 'My School App' and we are endeavouring to add more information to it.

## **REPORTS**

Your child's annual report will be sent out next week. Please may I ask that you sign and return the slip to acknowledge receipt of the report by **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July** as these will be attached to your child's records. May I just say that the teachers take a long time preparing these very comprehensive reports for you and any comments you wish to make are gratefully received.

## **STAFF TRAINING DAYS**

As you are aware we do have 5 Training Days throughout the academic year. These are always used to update, improve knowledge and help teachers put into practice new initiatives that will improve the provision for your child. I have already organised 3 days for the coming academic year:

4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> September 2017 and 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2018

I will inform you as soon as possible when the other two days have been arranged.

## **END OF TERM:**

The school finishes at 3.20 p.m. on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> JULY for the summer holiday. The school re-opens at 8.50 a.m. on **WEDNESDAY 6<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**.

### **... AND FINALLY**

May I take this opportunity to wish you a very happy and sunny! Summer and I look forward to seeing many of you back in September for the start of another exciting year in the life of Meon Infant School.

Kind Regards

*Lynda Daish*

Headteacher



**OUTCOME OF QUESTIONNAIRE – JUNE 2017**

**PARENTS – 39 responses**

		Strongly Agree		Agree		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Don't know	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
1	My child likes school	24	61	15	38	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	My child is making good progress	27	69	12	31	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Children, behave well	19	49	17	43	1	3	0	0	2	5
4	My child is able to play and co-operate with others	27	69	12	31	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Teaching is good	27	69	11	28	0	0	0	0	1	3
6	I have the opportunity to discuss how my child is getting on	26	67	12	31	0	0	0	0	1	3
7	I feel comfortable about approaching the school with questions or a problem or complaint	27	69	10	26	1	3	0	0	1	3
8	Staff expect my child to work hard and do his or her best	26	67	13	33	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	The school is led and managed well	26	67	13	33	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Staff treat my child fairly	26	67	13	33	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	The staff praise and encourage my child	27	69	12	37	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	The schools deals firmly with bullying	18	46	14	36	1	3	0	0	6	15
46	The school seeks the views of parents and takes account of their suggestions and concerns	18	46	13	33	2	5	0	0	6	15
14	Staff explain how I can help my child at home – or – the school provides appropriate homework	26	67	11	28	1	3	0	0	1	3
15	Staff encourage my child to become mature and independent	26	67	12	31	1	3	0	0	0	0
16	There is a good range of activities that my child finds interesting and enjoyable	19	49	19	49	0	0	1	3	0	0
17	The arrangements for my son/daughter to settle in when they started school are good	22	56	14	36	2	5	0	0	1	3
18	There is a range of After School Clubs	17	43	15	38	5	13	1	3	1	3
		YES		NO		DON'T KNOW					
19A	Do you use the school's website at home?	25	64	14	36						
19B	Do you find it useful?	23	59	4	10						
20	Do you use the School App on your mobile phone	31	79	8	20						
21	Would you recommend this school to others?	39	100	0	0						

**CHILDREN – 39 Responses**

		Strongly Agree		Agree		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Don't know	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
1	Do you like being at this school?	24	61	13	33	1	3	0	0	1	3
2	Do you find out new things in lessons?	28	72	11	28	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Are your lessons interesting and fun?	26	67	13	33	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Do you get help when you find the work difficult?	18	46	16	41	2	5	0	0	2	5
5	Do you work hard?	23	59	15	38	0	0	0	0	1	3
6	Do teachers show you how to make your work better?	19	49	19	49	0	0	0	0	1	3
7	Do most children behave well?	7	18	22	56	8	20	1	3	1	3
8	Are other children friendly?	18	46	21	54	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Is there an adult you would go to if you are worried at school?	24	61	12	31	1	3	0	0	2	5
10	Do teachers listen to your ideas?	21	54	15	38	1	3	0	0	2	5
11	Are you trusted to do things on your own?	19	49	17	44	2	5	0	0	1	3
12	Are you happy at school?	28	72	11	28	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	Do you feel safe at school?	25	64	12	31	0	0	0	0	2	5
14	Do you enjoy After School Clubs?	24	61	10	26	0	0	1	3	4	10
15	Do you use Education City at home?	5	13	14	36	5	13	4	10	11	28

16	If you do, do you enjoy using Education City?	9	23	9	23	1	3	1	3	18	46
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