

Dear Parents,

### Welcome Back!

A very warm 'welcome back' to everyone, to our new Year R children and their families, and to all our new children across the school. I do hope everyone had a lovely summer break and it is great to see everyone back in school.

### SEVERE NUT ALLERGY

We have two children in School with severe nut allergies. Any exposure to peanuts/nuts



may cause a life-threatening allergic reaction. As a school we are very aware of the dangers nut exposure can cause.

Therefore, we need

you to work with us to be "Nut Aware" and help these pupils to stay safe.

We would like to ask that you do not send any peanut or nut containing products to school with your child that will be eaten either at break or lunchtime.

We greatly appreciate your support and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the School Office.

### COMMUNICATION WITH SCHOOL

For our new parents in particular, listed below are all the systems we have in place for communicating with parents and for parents to communicate with us:

#### Newsletters

□ These are issued via email, and will provide updates on key events as well as a list of diary dates

#### Text Messages

□ For urgent information we may use text messages to contact parents quickly.

#### Facebook, Twitter, Whatsapp and Snapchat

□ The School does not communicate with Parents using Facebook, Twitter, Whatsapp or Snapchat.

#### School Website

□ All our letters and lots of other information, including dairy dates, are available from our school website.

#### Parents Communicating with School

This can be done in a variety of ways:

□ Talk to your child's class teacher at the end of the school day. The beginning of the day is not ideal; however, if it is urgent, then speak to the Office as soon as possible.

□ If you would like a longer time with a member of staff then feel free to book an appointment at any time. You can do this by telephoning the school office, sending an email or speak to Mrs Crews.

Please feel free to contact us at any time. We all want the very best for your child.

### END OF DAY COLLECTION

It is vital that we know how your child is being collected at the end of the day. Mrs Crews is spending a lot of time phoning Parents to check bus arrangements as we haven't been informed that there has been a change.

Please ensure you let the office know if a different person is collecting your child. It puts the School in a very awkward position when an adult is insisting they are collecting

a child and the School has not been informed.

### ATTENDANCE AND REQUESTS FOR ABSENCE

Did you know that being 5 minutes late for School each day works out as 3 days lost over the whole year!



Punctuality and attendance are vital for a child's education. Please make sure you contact the office by 9am at the latest if your child is going to be absent. If we do not receive a call, we will phone you to enquire why your child is absent.

Holidays: Your child will bring home today a guide from WSCC regarding fixed penalty notices that we have been asked to give to all Parents.

**A request for absence from School will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.**

### GATE

The green gate automatically unlocks at set times, therefore please try and push the gate before pressing the call button as it may already be open! When locked and you press to exit, when you hear the beep the gate has been released for you.

### TEACHER AND PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

Sessions will be in the classrooms from 2.30 until 3.00pm. The class teacher will



talk about the curriculum, expectations for the year, how to help your child with Literacy and Numeracy and planned trips. For Years 2 and 6 it will also include information about National Tests. It will

also give you an opportunity to meet the team who work with your child and to ask questions.

The sessions will be held as follows:

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Sept - Hedgehog class  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Sept - Owl class  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> Sept - Buzzard class  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Sept - Fox class

I appreciate that some Parents will not be able to attend the session so a hand-out covering all the points discussed will be sent home.

### QUEUING AT THE OFFICE

All forms and money regarding trips, parents evenings, clubs, tokens, vouchers, reply slips etc. should be Sent to the class teacher to be put into the class 'Office Zippy Bag', which comes over in the morning with the registers and goes back in the afternoon with any class post. This saves Parents queuing at the office, helps keep everything together for Mrs Crews and also helps our children to develop their independence. If you would like a replacement letter please ask your child to get one from their class teacher.

### EARRINGS

May I remind you that earrings should be **plain studs** only.

Please note that children **must not** wear earrings during P.E sessions. This is a requirement of all West Sussex schools. If children are able to take their own earrings out, they will need a bag or envelope to put them in. Or, even better, please send the children to school without them on their P.E. days. Find out when these are from the teacher. We can allow up to six weeks for ears to heal after piercing, during which time the child will need to cover them with their own plaster tape, but after that earrings must be removed. Any child who cannot remove their earrings for PE **MUST**

have completed an indemnity form available from the office.

### **SUMMER READING CHALLENGE**

I hope the children have enjoyed reading during the summer



break. Please bring all completed Library reading challenge certificates in to share in a Monday assembly.

### **PARKING**



We have, after 10 months, finally managed to get a licence signed to allow the School to have a path between the Recreation Ground

and the School. This now in turn means that funding will be released to allow for a pathway to be constructed across the field adjoining school for all parents and children to use. Work will begin on this as soon as possible. It has been an unprecedented process in West Sussex involving West Sussex County Council, Safer Routes to School, The Chichester Diocese and Local landowner Mr Bray. The idea of a path has been around for the past 20 plus years and at every time has met with challenging obstacles. I am thrilled that we will soon have a path for everyone to access on a daily basis.

### **FOOD AT COMPTON AND UP MARDEN**

At Compton and Up Marden School, we promote a healthy lifestyle - good habits which are formed when young, will last a lifetime! I would therefore like to confirm our school policy for items of food that are eaten in school:

#### **Fruit and Vegetable Scheme for Key Stage One**

The Government's School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme will continue this year.

Under this scheme, each child in KS1 is entitled to receive a free piece of fruit or vegetable each school day. The items will be fresh and of good quality and the aim is for the children to have a positive and enjoyable experience of fruit and vegetables. KS1 may bring in their own healthy snacks from home to eat at morning play, but please ensure that it either a piece of fruit or vegetable. No cereal bars or fruit bars please.

#### **KS2 Healthy Snacks**

Children may bring a healthy snack from home, ie fresh fruit (NOT fruit winders, cereal or fruit bars please), a box of raisins, a carrot, etc.

### **WATER BOTTLES**

Even during the winter months, it is important that children have a regular intake of water. This keeps them refreshed and active both inside and outside the classroom. Please ensure all new school water bottles are CLEARLY named. We have water bottles available to purchase, from the office, for 30p.



### **GOLD AWARDS**



The children enjoy hearing the reason for their nomination during our celebration assembly which has now moved to a Monday. Just to remind you that any member of the school community can nominate a child for this award eg, a member of the school staff, a parent or a governor. Gold awards could be given for children being particularly helpful, thinking of others, persevering, being honest etc. By involving the whole school community, the children can see how we all value ways of behaving and attitude to others. Nominated children will receive a special sticker and

certificate. A gold box is situated in the school reception area where nominations can be placed.

### HAIR

Please can children with long hair make sure that their hair is tied back; not only does this look smart but it can help to prevent any headlice problems. Hair slides, hairbands in school colours please and to be functional rather than a distraction! No Jojo bows please!

### INSET DAYS - 2017- 2018

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018

### NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

- Please ensure we have the correct home/work numbers for you and your emergency contacts. Correct telephone and mobile numbers are vital should we need to contact you in an emergency.
- Teacher led clubs start week commencing **MONDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER** and end the week ending **FRIDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**. E-mails have been sent to confirm places.
- Clubs by outside providers begin week commencing **MONDAY 11<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**. Emails have been sent by external providers.
- Please ensure all uniform is named!!
- When purchasing uniform or paying for a club/trip please ensure you send the correct money in a named envelope via your class teacher.

about your child's progress, or any aspect of their school life, please contact firstly the class teacher, then Mr Christmas /myself.

With best wishes

Mrs Claire Inskip  
Headteacher

Finally, may I take this opportunity to emphasise that if you have any concerns

## **Dates 2017 -2018**

### **Autumn**

#### **New dates in italics**

Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> September	Hedgehog class – Meet the teacher 2.30 – 3.00
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> September	Owl class - Meet the teacher 2.30 – 3.00
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> September	Buzzard class - Meet the teacher 2.30 – 3.00
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	Fox class - Meet the teacher 2.30 – 3.00
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Festival 9.15am
<b>Monday 23rd October</b>	<b>Half term week</b>
<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>INSET</b>
<b>Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October</b>	<b>Children return to School</b>
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	Numeracy day
Tuesday 7th November	Parents' evening
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Open Morning for Prospective parents 9 -11.30
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance day
Monday 13th November	Buzzard Parents meeting Re: Cobnor 3.30pm
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents' evening
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Staff meeting – Christmas displays
Monday 4th December	Christmas post box
Friday 1st December	Christingle service 2pm
Tuesday 5th December	Nativity dress rehearsal (Pre School)
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity performance (pm)
Thursday 7th December	Nativity performance (am)
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas jumper day
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of Christmas post

Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 party
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 party
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term/ End of term service
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>INSET</b>