



Dear parents/ carers

## Parents evening



Parents' evening is fast approaching and slips with times will be coming out in your child's book bag today.

These will be taking place on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 3.30 - 6pm and Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 6 - 8.30pm. You will have a chance to look at your children's learning and then have a chat with your child's teacher to discuss their progress. This is a great time to discuss any queries and ask questions. As the appointments last ten minutes, this may be not be enough time to discuss any in depth queries. Please feel free to make an appointment to see class teachers after school if there is a deeper issue to discuss. You will have the opportunity to discuss your children's targets.

Our Special needs leader will be available on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October. If you would like to make an appointment to see her please pop into the office.

## Curriculum

The children are really enjoying our creative curriculum. Every term we carry out pupil subject surveys which give teachers the opportunity to find out what children think of the subjects taught. Theme days like Castle day held on 7<sup>th</sup> October for Yr2 really bring subjects like History alive. The children really enjoyed all the workshops and the afternoon banquet. Thank you so much to all the volunteers who helped. The children had a wonderful day

## Poetry Week

Next week is poetry week and we hope the children are as excited as we are, as we have two poets visiting, a poetry competition plus the travelling book fair.

## Christmas play dates



It seems way too early to talk about Christmas, however we have put dates into the diary for Christmas plays. We restrict our Christmas presentations to one week, so these may take place in the morning or afternoon. They are also fitted around dress rehearsals, so that different year groups may watch other presentations. Our presentations are centred on the nativity. We will be taking a collection for the hospice of St Francis at the end of presentations.

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 9.10am** Squirrels and parents of Nursery children playing market people.

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2.00pm** Rabbits

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 9.10am** Owls and parents of Nursery children playing townspeople.

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2pm** Hedgehogs

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2pm** Foxes

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2pm** Badgers

Dress rehearsals take place in the mornings so that all classes may see at least one other production. I can not give any further details as presentations have not been discussed with



staff yet. This usually happens in mid November. More details will follow nearer the time.

## School dinners



All is well in the dining room. We have settled into routines, with a huge take up of the universal school meals. Mrs Coombs is great at encouraging the children to try new things and provided 3,300 school dinners in September! You should have all received a copy of the new menu which starts after half term.

## Fireworks



Don't forget you can get reduced rate tickets for the firework display on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November.

## Parking



Some local residents have expressed concerns about parking in the local area when bringing children to school. We appreciate that some of you need to bring your children by car but please make sure you park responsibly. Woodlands Avenue in particular is a very busy junction and needs to be clear of cars so children walking up to Thomas Coram have a clear view of the road.

## Panto



The deadline for returning pantomime permissions slips is Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October... Oh no it isn't.... Oh yes it is....If you haven't

returned your slip please make sure you do so by this date. Many thanks.

## Open All Hours

Unfortunately, we are not able to be open all hours. The office is open everyday from 8.30 - 12 noon and 2.30 until 3.15pm. On Thursdays we open for uniform sales from 2.30 - 3.15pm. If you need to contact us outside of these hours please email [admin@swinggate.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@swinggate.herts.sch.uk) or phone 01442 863913. We operate call screening between 9.30am and 2.30pm. Please leave a message between these times. I can assure you that we do check messages regularly and pass on any information.

## Tubs4Tablets

We have signed up to Flora's Tubs for Tablets campaign. If we get enough special lids we get free Samsung Galaxy Tabs for the children! If you use Flora or Stork please look out for the tokens in 500g promotional tubs available in Tesco. We need 50 lids for each tablet so please eat as much Flora and Stork as possible. Thanks.

## Half term



We hope you all have a lovely half term and look forward to hearing all about them when we return on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November.