



Prior Heath Infant School
Prior Road, Camberley, Surrey GU15 1DA

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Newsletter No. 2
7th October 2016

Dear Parents,

Parent Interviews

As mentioned in the newsletter of 9th September, parent interviews will take place on Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th October. Lists of times will be posted outside the classrooms from Monday 10th October for you to book a "slot". If you are not able to book your time in person, please contact the office from Monday 10th October. Appointments are for 10 minutes only, so if you feel that you will need longer, please see the class teacher concerned to make alternative arrangements. Due to the limited number of time slots available, it is preferable that both parents attend the same appointment. Thank you.

Harvest Festivals – Wednesday 19th October

You should have received a separate letter about this year's Harvest celebrations. Year R will be holding their Harvest Assembly at 10.15am on Wednesday 19th October and the Year 1 and Year 2 event will be at 2.00pm. We would like to thank parents for their offers of help with the display, packing or delivery of produce and letters will be sent to these parents in their child's book bag. We have had several offers of help from parents to run the crèche during the Year R Harvest celebration in the morning, however, we would be grateful for more offers of help for the afternoon crèche to run during the Years 1 and 2 event. If any Year R parents or grandparents would be available to help with the crèche in the afternoon please contact the school office. Unfortunately, if we do not have enough volunteers the crèche will not run.

Contributions of fresh fruit, bread and cakes (homemade or bought), vegetables, flowers, tins or packets of food would be very much appreciated on the morning of the service. (Please ensure all produce is in date.) Distribution of the produce will take place on Thursday 20th October. As in previous years we will be sharing the produce between three local residential homes, the Saint Vincent de Paul Society (in conjunction with Rotary Club of Camberley) and The Besom in Camberley who help the needy across Surrey Heath. The Besom and Saint Vincent de Paul Society look for non-perishable gifts such as tea, coffee, tins and packets of food.

If any parents have any tall vases that we can borrow (not precious ones) we would be very grateful. Please take these to the hall on the morning of the celebrations. Donations are delivered in boxes that are a suitable size for the children to carry. We would be grateful if you would collect any small boxes and bring them into the school office by Friday 14th October. Thank you.

Parking

Unfortunately we have received complaints about parking this term. We are well aware that parking is not easy at Prior Heath, in common with all other schools, and it is an on-going cause for concern. Please note the following:

- Please ensure that you park considerately at all times and do not block other cars in. Recently, several parents have returned to their cars after dropping their children to find they have been blocked in. This is frustrating for parents who need to get to work and to appointments and it also disrupts the flow of traffic around the car park.

- Please do not park on the yellow markings in the Prior Road car park as this is illegal and makes it difficult and dangerous for parents and children crossing the access road to get onto the pavement.
- Please follow the one way system in the car park and make your drop-off as brief as possible.
- If parents park in the side roads off Prior Road, please ensure that cars are parked at a safe distance from junctions and do not block residents' driveways.

We regularly liaise with our Police Community Support Officer, Vince Wakeling, about parking issues and have requested that regular patrols are carried out.

Inset Day Reminder

A reminder that school will be closed for staff training on **Monday 31st October 2016** and on the following dates in 2017:

Monday 20th February
 Friday 23rd June
 Monday 26th June

Important - Health & Safety within the school grounds

We would like to remind parents to be vigilant at the beginning and end of the school day in order to ensure the safety of children at all times. Please do not allow the children in your care to:

- Use the Adventure Playground or Trim Trail as we are not insured for children to use this equipment unless supervised by school staff.
- Ride on scooters or bikes anywhere within the school grounds, including the path that runs behind the Tennis Club and across the school field.
- Climb on the school fence.
- Run through the garden borders at the front of the school.
- Walk around the wall outside the school office.
- Play ball games on the school field.
- Play with or throw sticks.

Your co-operation with this would be very much appreciated. Thank you.

Illness

As usual at this time of year there have been a few cases of illness in school. In order to minimise the risk of any bugs spreading, please note the following:

- Children should not be sent to school if they are unwell.
- Children who have contracted a sickness virus and/or diarrhoea should not return to school until they have been free of symptoms for **48 hours from the last bout of illness**.
- If children are feeling unwell at school they will be sent home.
- Please remind your child of the importance of hand washing after using the toilet and before handling food.

If your child is absent due to illness or unforeseen circumstances, please inform the school by telephone before 9.30 am on the first day of absence. When your child returns, a letter of explanation is required for our records in addition to the original phone call. Thank you.

Uniform

Our school uniform stock has now been passed to Brenda's in Frimley and an information flyer is attached.

As the weather has become significantly wetter and colder, please would you ensure that your child has a sweatshirt and coat in school every day; not only for playtimes but also for outdoor learning which is part of the everyday curriculum for all year groups. Thank you.

Jewellery and items from home

Jewellery can be easily lost at school, which causes distress to the child concerned. Therefore, we strongly advise that all forms of jewellery be left at home. Plain analogue watches may be worn by the older children at parents' risk.

Plain gold studs may be worn by children who have pierced ears on the understanding that, for reasons of health and hygiene, they are not worn on days when children have PE. Please be advised that if the class's designated PE day has to be changed and your child is wearing earrings, they will not be permitted to take part in PE that day, unless they are able to remove the earrings themselves.

We discourage children from bringing toys and other treasures to school, unless asked by their teacher to do so, in case of loss or damage which could cause disappointment. Thank you

PTA

The PTA AGM was held on 22nd September. At Prior Heath we have a long tradition of generous donations to the school by the PTA to enhance what we can provide for all the children. More recent projects have included: mobile lunch tables, remote control cars, rubber mulch surface in Year R, classroom computers and the Trim Trail.

We would like to thank Rosie Guichard for chairing the PTA last year. Rosie was very well supported by the treasurer, Michael Cutting, as well as by Elizabeth Cutting, Kerry Day, Leanne Irving, Susie Lytle and Dean Stokes who brought their exceptional skills, creativity and hard work to the team. I would also like to thank all of you who contributed to the wonderful PTA events throughout the year.

We are delighted that Rosie has agreed to continue this year as Joint Chair, together with Susie Lytle. They will be supported by Leanne Irving and Jane Horne, Joint Vice Chairs, Sarah Rees, Secretary and Eulindi Gersbach, Treasurer.

Yours sincerely,



Ellen McClelland
Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

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|------------------------|--|--|
| Thursday | 13 th October | 9.15 to 10.30am Open Morning for parents who have children starting school in September 2017 |
| Wednesday | 19 th October | YR Harvest Assembly 10.15 to 10.30am |
| Wednesday | 19 th October | Y1 & Y2 Harvest Festival 2.00 – 2.40pm |
| Thursday | 20 th October | Harvest produce delivery (am) |
| Wed & Thurs | 19 th & 20 th October | Parent interviews between 3.00 & 6.00pm |
| Monday-Friday | 24 th to 28 th October | Half Term |
| Monday | 31st October | Inset Day – school closed for staff training |
| Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri | 13 th to 16 th December | Christmas Plays 9.30 until approx.10.30am – further details to follow |
| Wednesday | 21 st December | End of Autumn Term at 2pm – please note early closure |
| Tuesday | 3 rd January 2017 | Start of Spring Term |
| Monday-Friday | 13 th to 17 th February 2017 | Half Term |
| Monday | 20th February 2017 | Inset Day – school closed for staff training |
| Friday | 31 st March 2017 | End of Spring Term at 2pm – please note early closure |
| Tuesday | 18 th April 2017 | Start of Summer Term |
| Monday | 1 st May 2017 | Bank Holiday – school closed |
| Monday-Friday | 29 th May to 2 nd June | Half Term |
| Friday | 23rd June 2017 | Inset Day – school closed for staff training |
| Monday | 26th June 2017 | Inset Day – school closed for staff training |
| Friday | 21 st July 2017 | End of Summer Term at 2pm – please note early closure |