

Newsletter - October 2018



It is hard to believe that we have already reached October half term. I really enjoyed the opportunity to meet many parents and families informally at our recent Parents Evenings. As always, this newsletter has some news about upcoming events and items for information.

Parent involvement morning – Friday 2nd November

‘Place value in Maths: What is it and how do we develop understanding from Reception to Year 2?’

Our first parent involvement event of 2018/2019 is focused on teaching and learning in mathematics. Parent involvement mornings are an opportunity to discover what your child is learning alongside them in their classroom. Feedback from previous years has been that parents find these sessions really helpful, giving an insight into teaching at school and ideas of how parents could support learning at home.

- 9.00-9.15: Tea/coffee served by Friends of Turnfurlong Infant School in the hall
- 9.15-9.30: ‘Place value in Maths: What is it and how do we develop understanding from Reception to Year 2?’ A presentation by Mrs Nicoll, Year 2 lead and Maths co-ordinator
- 9.30-10.30: Time in classrooms

**A reminder that, as we do not have space,
we regret that younger siblings are not able to attend.**

Photographs

The proofs from the school photographs have been sent home. Please complete the order form, following the clear instructions given, and return to school together with your payment sealed in the envelope provided. Parents are under no obligation to buy any of the photographs. Please note that cheques should be made payable to Tempest Photography. Orders should be returned to school as soon as possible, and at the latest by **Thursday 1st November**. Thank you.

Arriving at school on time

Please can I ask you to try really hard to make sure that your child arrives at school on time. Arriving late makes the beginning of the morning a more stressful time for you and your child and means that your child misses out on the routines at the beginning of the morning which can leave children feeling unsettled. This then impacts on their learning. Please can you also encourage your child to remember to bring all their school bits and pieces with them when they arrive at school; PE bags, book bags, coats, water bottles etc. Having a checklist on the door before you leave the house might help your child to develop their independence skills.

Oral Health

The British Dental Association has partnered with Colgate for Bright Smiles, Bright Futures[™], a UK-wide programme to help children learn about the importance of good oral health an early age. Year 2 have been learning about oral hygiene as part of their ‘Keeping Healthy’ topic and Year 1 will be finding out about dentists as part of ‘people who help us’. Children in Years 1 and 2 will receive a toothpaste sample, a toothbrush and an educational family leaflet.

School gates

Please can we remind you to move away from the school gates when you drop your child off in the morning. I've had reports of children being distressed because they can't easily get through the gates in the morning. I'm sure nobody wants a child's day to begin like this so please, for everyone's safety and well-being, move away from the gates when you've dropped off.

Parking

Due to continuing concerns regarding parking around school and driving in Turnfurlong Lane I have contacted the local policing team. Please think about how your driving affects the safety of others.

Free flu vaccine

All schoolchildren in Buckinghamshire from Reception to Year 5 are being offered the free flu vaccine this year - more details will follow. Parents will receive an email regarding giving consent.

Meanwhile, just in case you weren't aware, if you also have a younger child aged between **2-3 years old** they are also eligible for a free flu vaccine on the NHS. As with all children, this is also given as a quick, painless nasal spray.

Get in touch with your GP to book your pre-school child's vaccine.

NHS advice states that it's really important to protect young children against what can be a nasty illness for them, plus it helps stop the virus spreading to other family members - particularly important for the elderly or vulnerable who can be at risk of serious illness if they catch the flu.

For all you need to know about the flu and the vaccine go to www.nhs.uk/flu

Reading workshop for Reception parents

Following on from our Phonics workshop, we would like to invite you to a reading workshop on Monday 26th November. It will start at 9.15 am and run for approximately 30 minutes. We will explain the next steps in learning to read, and will tell you how we teach reading in school. We will also offer you some ideas on how you can help at home. If you are not able to attend, a flyer will be sent home after the workshop.

Have you looked at Buckinghamshire Family Information Service website?

Buckinghamshire's Family Information Service has a wealth of information including information on events, activities as well as childcare options and sources of support for a wide range of family concerns. The 'things to do' section has a variety of events advertised for the half term holiday. It's well worth a look.

Aylesbury Vineyard

Aylesbury Vineyard will be offering a nutritious lunch, free of charge plus activities and games during the half-term for those families struggling on tight budgets.

MakeLunch at Aylesbury Vineyard will be running on Thursday 25 October 12.00-1.30 pm at The Vineyard Centre, Gatehouse Close, Aylesbury, HP19 8DN.

I hope that you all have a happy and healthy half term and we'll see you all on **Tuesday 30th October.**

Dates for the Diary	
October	
Monday 29 th	Staff training day – children not in school
Tuesday 30 th	Children return to school
November	
Friday 2 nd	Parent involvement morning
Tuesday 13 th	Image Theatre pantomime in school
Friday 16 th	Mufti Day in exchange for tombola items for the Christmas Fair
Saturday 17 th	FoTIS Christmas Fair, 11.00 am-2 pm
Monday 19 th	Flu vaccinations in school
Monday 26 th	Reading workshop for Reception parents
December	
Monday 3 rd	Christmas Production rehearsal at Aylesbury Grammar School
Tuesday 4 th	Christmas Production at Aylesbury Grammar School – 2 performances, 9.30 am & 1.30 pm. Further details to follow.
Wednesday 12 th	Reception children walk to the post box to post letters to Santa
Friday 14 th	Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children (<i>further details to follow</i>)
Monday 17 th	Christmas parties (during the school day)
Wednesday 19 th	Carols round the Tree (everyone welcome) 2.30 pm End of term 3.15 pm
January	
Wednesday 2 nd	Staff training day – children not in school
Thursday 3 rd	Children return to school

Term Dates 2018-2019		
Spring Term	Thursday 3 January 2019	Friday 15 February 2019
	Monday 25 February 2019	Friday 5 April 2019
Summer Term	Wednesday 24 April 2019	Friday 24 May 2019
	Tuesday 4 June 2019	Wednesday 24 July 2019
Staff Training Days	<i>Wednesday 2 January 2019 Tuesday 23 April 2019 Monday 3 June 2019</i>	<i>May Day: Monday 6 May 2019</i>