



Cavendish Close Junior School

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Curious
Confident
Committed
Children

Newsletter No 2 – 12th October 2015



BOOK FAIR



Book Fair

Book Fair begins today in the hall after school. Running alongside the Book Fair this year are two Michael Morpurgo competitions, 'Word Scramble' or 'Name That Book'. Competition sheets are 20p each and can be bought from Mrs Mellor at break or at the Book Fair. All entries need to be handed in by 6th November. Four prizes will be given out, two for each competition. Further details about the competition will be given in assembly tomorrow by Mrs Jones and Mrs Mellor.

Parent Voice

Every half term, a group of parents meet with the Headteacher, Mr Field, and the Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Tague, to discuss school issues. This is a chance for parents to raise general issues about the running of the school, as well as to take part in fundraising activities - we never discuss individual children. It is a two-way discussion, hopefully of mutual benefit to both sides. I would particularly like to welcome any of our new Year 3 parents to join Parent Voice. The next set of meetings are as follows:

- **Wednesday 4th November 6:00 pm**
- **Friday 6th November 2:15 pm**

These meetings will be given over to the organisation of our **Christmas Fair on Friday 4th December**.

Reading

One of the issues discussed at the latest Parent Voice meetings was reading, and in particular, Reading Diaries. In support of the school's efforts to develop children's love of reading, it was felt appropriate to increase the number of times each week that we expect children to get their Reading Diaries signed from two to three. Clearly, we would hope that the children get the opportunity to read a lot more than this at home – books, comics, magazines, e-readers etc – but we hope that parents will support us in getting the diaries signed each week.

Congratulations

Well done to our Football Golf team of Monique, Jack J, Brandon and Cody, who won a schools tournament on 23rd September, and to our Year 5/6 footballers who won the Derby City Mini-Soccer Competition on 29th September (see <http://www.derbycityssp.co.uk/cav-close-kick-off-new-season-with-victory/> for more details and pictures!).

Governors

The parent questionnaire at the end of last term highlighted that many parents were not sure who our school Governors are, nor what their role is. I have reproduced below a letter from our Chair of Governors, Nancy Elks, explaining the Governors' role. There is also a list of those involved. This information is also available on the school website, on the 'Our School' tab, along with more details about each of the Governors.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'm not sure whether you are aware of the role of governors within school and the way they support our school so I thought I'd write to you personally to first of all let you know who we are and what we do.

At present we have 11 governors in the governing body and we work closely with Mr Field and the staff to ensure that we do the very best for your child during their time here. We represent a cross section of the school and wider community and come from varied backgrounds, bringing different levels of experience to the school. We have parent governors, Local Authority governors and governors from the community. We do not involve ourselves with the day to day running of the school – that's the teachers' job – but we do support and challenge the school with issues related to finance, policies, health and safety, and so on.

We have Full Governing Body meetings termly, but we also have sub committees that deal with issues regarding curriculum, personnel and finance.

Governors also come in to school to see the school at work – so the role is very rewarding and at times quite challenging!

I hope that this information gives you some ideas about the work we do as volunteers. The one thing we all have in common is the commitment to the school to ensure that all the children are supported in order to allow them to realise their potential.

With kind regards

Nancy Elks - Chair of Governors

List of Governors 2015/16

Local Authority Governor (1)

- Brian Moakes

Parent Governors (3)

- Rosalind Allen (Vice-chair)
- Amie Hollingshurst
- Leesa Halliwell

Co-opted Governors (5)

- Nancy Elks (Chair)
- Ian Hinds
- Trisha Bowen
- Sarah Fowler (Assistant Head)
- Craig Pollard

Headteacher (1)

- Simon Field

Staff (1)

- Michelle Tague (Deputy Head)

New Website

Our new school website is up and running once again. Keep an eye out for the latest news about what is going on in school, and information on policies and the curriculum.

The address is www.cavclosej.derby.sch.uk.

Amber Cards

Another issue that has been discussed at Parent Voice recently is that of behaviour, and in particular children losing Golden Time after receiving an amber card. As children lose Golden Time for receiving a red card, this was not felt to be equitable. Parents felt that losing Golden Time for an amber card early on in the week would not leave much incentive for behaving well throughout the rest of the week. One suggestion was that children should lose a part of Golden Time if they had an amber card – however this was not felt to be logistically workable by staff. An alternative solution was suggested and adopted this term – from now on, children receiving an amber card will not lose any Golden Time, but should they receive a second amber card during the week, then they will then lose all of their Golden Time.

The behaviour system operates in the following way:

- A 'look' will be given to warn a child that they need to change their behaviour;
- A formal warning then follows;
- If the behaviour persists, the child will be asked to turn their card to amber;
- If it still persists, the child will be asked to turn their card to red. The child will then have to report to a senior member of staff, a text and a letter will be sent home, a detention at break time will follow the next day, and Golden Time will be lost that week;
- More than four red Cards, and the parents of that child will be invited in to meet with the Headteacher to discuss the situation and agree on a behaviour plan.

At the start of each new day, all children start with green cards once again.

Newsletters via text

We have always sent out paper copies of newsletters. Following a suggestion by Parent Voice, we will now be sending out a text to parents on the day that a newsletter goes out, with a link to the document on the school website. You will then be able to open the newsletter straightaway on a smartphone, or on a tablet or PC by clicking on the 'Newsletters' button on the welcome page.

Please fill in the form below, cut it out and send back into school ONLY if you wish to keep receiving paper copies of the newsletter. If this form is not sent back in, we shall not send your child home with a newsletter in future. Not only will this save a lot of paper, but we hope that it will be a more effective way of getting information out to parents.

We shall also stop sending more than one paper copy to a single family, but rather just to the oldest child.



Child's Name _____ Class _____

I would like to continue receiving paper copies of the school newsletter.

Signed _____ (Parent/Carer)

Name _____

Reading and Writing Afternoons

As part of our programme of activities to raise the profile of reading and writing in school, we are holding two sessions after half term when we are inviting parents and carers to come in to see what the children are doing in school and to support them in their learning.

Reading afternoon – Monday 2nd November 2:30 to 3:15 pm. Come in to listen to your child read, or perhaps share a book with them.

Writing afternoon – Monday 16th November 2:15 to 3:15 pm. We are inviting parents and carers to come in for the last hour of our special Writing Day to see what the children have been up to. The theme for the day is 'Bears' and children are invited to dress up for the day as bears, and/or bring their teddy bears into school.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 13th October 3:30 to 7:00 pm – Parent interviews

Wednesday 14th October 3:30 to 5:00 pm – Parent interviews

Friday 23rd October – Last day of half-term

Monday 2nd November – First day of half-term

- Reading afternoon for parents 2:30 to 3:15 pm

Wednesday 4th November 6:00 pm – Parent Voice 1

Friday 6th November 2:15 pm – Parent Voice 2

Monday 16th November 2:15 to 3:15 pm – Writing afternoon for parents

Wednesday 18th November – Individual photos

Monday 23rd November 2015 – INSET (School closed to children)

Wednesday 9th December 6:30 pm – Year 3 Christmas Production for parents

Thursday 10th December 9:30 am – Year 3 Christmas Production for parents

Wednesday 16th December – Last day of term

Thursday 17th/Friday 18th December – Closure Days

Monday 4th/Tuesday 5th January 2016 – Closure Days

Wednesday 6th January 2016 – First day of term

Friday 18th March 2016 – INSET (School closed to children)

Friday 29th April 2016 – INSET (School closed to children)

Monday 9th May 2016 – Start of Year 6 SATs week

Friday 1st July 2016 – INSET (School closed to children)

A full list of term dates is available on the school website.

Parent Interviews

A reminder that individual Parent/Carer Interviews are being held this week:

- **Tuesday 13th October 3:30 to 7:00 pm**
- **Wednesday 14th October 3:30 to 5:00 pm (not 5KM)**
- **Thursday 15th October 3:30 to 5:00 pm (5KM only)**

All Parents/Carers should have received their individual appointment times from their child's teacher.

Safety

A number of incidents have been reported lately where our children's safety has been compromised by inconsiderate parking or driving. Please help us keep all of our children safe when coming to or leaving school, on Deborah Drive, Morley Road and Wood Road.

Thank you.

