

Waterbeach Community Primary School

High Street, Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire, CB25 9JU

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Message from Miss Green

Please help - Curriculum Survey

As I reported in last month's newsletter we have been making changes to our curriculum and will be continuing to publish further information for you over the next year. Ms Innes and I have also shown our curriculum changes to the Governors at a dedicated meeting and we are now anxious to find out what you, as parents, think. Consequently the Governors and I have developed a survey for you which is embedded in our website. It can be found under the tab "Governors Curriculum Survey" within the Parents and Community area, or by clicking [here](#).

There are three questions that require short answers and it really should not take longer than ten minutes - but it will have an important impact on our future work. I would be really grateful if you could take a few moments from your busy days to just send in a response. Thank you.

Before and After School Care

As our school grows, it has become apparent that the demand for wrap around care for our children is also going to increase. As a result of this I am delighted to be able to inform you that I have been in discussion with Premier Sports about providing an another alternative on our school site. Our plan is that they will initially be based in two empty classrooms, within the new build. The team are aiming to provide snacks, trained professionals and a wide variety of activities for the children to take part in. All of their employees are used to working with children in clubs, school lessons and/ or coaching sessions. The "before" and "after" school clubs will not be just sport based. Gareth Simpson, the director of the project, will be releasing further details in the near future - so please look out for these.



Our School Vision

Our school will encourage each child to grow into a happy, confident individual, thriving in a supportive community where each is inspired to learn and discover through a kaleidoscope of opportunities, with space to imagine and to create

The new path and start of the playground.



New Class teacher for Sea Turtles in January

I am really pleased to inform you that we have appointed a replacement for Mrs. Cotton in Sea Turtles. Mrs. Fitch will be joining our school to teach for two days a week. Mrs. Conroy will work for three and a half days. Mrs Fitch is an experienced teacher and has had a successful teaching career so far - she has worked with year 3 children and I know that she will fit into our school really well. I am looking forward to her joining us in January 2020.

ATTENDANCE AWARDS - NEW FOR THIS YEAR

To celebrate the attendance of our children, Mrs Rutherford has developed a scheme that recognises those who are consistently in school and maximising their learning opportunities. A range of attendance badges will be presented, in our celebration assembly at the end of each term, to those children achieving 100% attendance.

Badges will be awarded as follows;

Bronze - 100% attendance over one term in the school year

Silver - 100% attendance over two terms in the school year

Gold - 100% attendance over the whole school year

We understand that illness happens and this new scheme aims to allow for that with greater chances for pupils to achieve an attendance badge at some point over the school year.

Building update

The boundary has now been extended to allow Kier to start to create the new key stage 2 playground. The initial digging can be seen in the photograph above. As a result of this extension, a new path has now been made. The photographs above will give you some idea of the changes if you have not yet seen them for yourself. The build itself is now about 50% complete. New phone lines, furniture orders and office organization are still underway but we are moving very quickly towards the end of February when the project is expected to be completed. As you may have seen, the end of the driveway has also been re-laid during the half term holiday - a massive job that involved a deep dig into the road foundations. It does look much better and is very smooth to drive along.

Local Information - WARNING

This information concerns the local Recreation Ground. It has come to my attention that there has been a report of an older boy approaching younger children who are playing in the recreation ground, in order to ask them to deliver packages for money. I am adding it to this newsletter as a warning. I ask you to please watch your children, especially on these dark nights. Teachers have warned all children about this in class, but I think that it is a conversation that must be continued at home. For those of you who are unaware, our child protection training, has informed us about County Lines groups, who use young children to deliver inappropriate packages for money. We have been told that very young children can become entrapped by these groups. Please be vigilant and ensure that your children are not vulnerable to this.

Traffic Patrol - sad news

It is with a heavy heart that I write to tell you that Angela Ghoorahoo, our wonderful crossing patrol lady, will be leaving us. She is moving to a new location and will no longer be able to continue in this role. Obviously I am very eager to find a replacement, so if anyone would like to take on the role or even knows of someone who would like to do so, please can you let me know as soon as possible? Thank you!

E-SAFETY and Fortnite

On Monday 28th October, our key stage 2 children attended a Google Education assembly. Mrs Evans had arranged this as part of our e-safety drive and it was both informative and enjoyable for all concerned. We see this as an important part of our curriculum and also an important feature of our communication with you, as parents. Mrs. Ogilvie has recently ordered the latest copy of Digital Parenting for you all and attached to this newsletter you will find a copy of an information sheet about Fortnite. We are aware that many of our children enjoy playing this game - but we feel that it is important that you have as much information as possible so that you can make informed choices about your children's screen time. Significant points to note are;

- the game has the facility to allow children to communicate with other people online....do you know them and keep track of who your children are communicating with?
- The game has an age restriction of 13+ - are you aware of this and why this is the case?

Volunteer Readers in school

Thank you so much for those of you who have replied to say that you can help with reading in school. We will be running information sessions on Friday 8th November at 2.30 pm and Thursday 14th November at 2.30pm. If you would like to attend one of these sessions or would like to volunteer but can't make these dates please email Lynsey Ogilvie logilvie@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk

Office - office@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk

Finance - finance@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk

Head Teacher - head@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk

Deputy Headteacher - logilvie@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk

Class teachers - lower case - the initial and surname of the teacher followed by @waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk. Eg - itregoin@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk for Mrs Tregoin.

CHANGE OF SHOES!

It is the wet season, **please can all children remember to bring in wet weather shoes?** We have new carpets in school and really want to look after them. All children should bring a pair of wellies or shoes that will protect their feet in a named bag. The shoes should be taken to the class but will be taken outside in order for the children to change into them during muddy play times.

This is exactly the same as before and I plead with everyone to please help us to keep our school clean and tidy by providing this footwear. Thank you!

PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING

Are you aware that you could be missing out on financial support for your child? All children are entitled to free school meals until they leave year 2. HOWEVER, this has meant that many parents and carers do not realise that at any age you could qualify for Pupil Premium Funding. This may entitle you to free school lunches in any year group, free trips and support for school uniform expenses. Children with this entitlement may chose an after school club which will be paid for.

Please ask at the office for further information. Email- office@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk