



IRCHESTER COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL LANE, IRCHESTER, NORTHANTS, NN29 7AZ

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Monday 30th October 2017

Term 2: Whole School Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back after what I hope has been a good half term break.

Firstly, I would like to start this newsletter with congratulations to Mrs Friend on the safe arrival of Ethan James Friend (6lbs 1oz) on Thursday 26th October.

Mrs Clarke will be teaching 5JW on Thursday and Fridays for the next two terms as Mrs Ward is reducing her time to three days a week. Mrs Cekaj will teach 6RR on a Friday. She has already been working with Year 6 this term, covering for Miss Fulham as she returns to work full time. Mrs Cekaj knows this year group well having taught many of the children in Year 2.

Thank you to everyone for supporting our mufti-day at the end last term; we raised £356 for the playground project fund. This term will be the final push to raise the balance for the outstanding payment for the play equipment already installed. The main event is the Christmas Fair on Saturday 2nd December but there will be film nights and other fundraising events before the end of the year.

As a school we raise funds for other charities too; in fact the next event is a special mufti day led by the Anti-bullying ambassadors on Friday 17th November with donations to Children in Need. That week is Anti-bullying week and the ambassadors have a range of events planned on the theme 'all different all equal', including the fun mufti day. On that day the children wear school uniform on the top half (all equal) and something different on the bottom half (all different). That week Year 5 & 6 will enjoy a performance of 'Add Me' by students at Rushden Community College which teaches them the importance of knowing who they may be speaking to online.

Foundation Stage

Following the successful phonics and kinetic letters workshops last term the Foundation Stage staff have planned a maths workshop event on Wednesday 8th November either 2:30pm or 6:00pm. Foundation Stage children are encouraged to join their parents at the workshops, but no younger siblings please.

Parents may still order a £5 kinetic letters whiteboard pack on parent pay or ask for details at the office.

If your child is due to start school in September 2018 and you weren't able to attend the recent open evening then we have a drop in session on Friday 10th November 9:30 – 10:30am. To manage numbers please book, you may bring the child due to start school but as the rest of the children are in class we are unable to cater for younger siblings too.

Parents' Evenings

The opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their teacher is an important occasion, highly valued by the children and staff. Our policy is to meet with every parent as the progress of every child matters. Hopefully you have already booked an appointment on line, if not please contact the school office to arrange a time as soon as possible.

Tuesday 31st October 3:30 – 5:30pm 5JW 3SP (6CF parents and children may view books)

Wednesday 1st November 3:30 – 5:30pm rest of the school
5:00 – 7:00pm 5JW 3SP

Thursday 2nd November 5:00 – 7:00pm rest of the school

Tuesday 21st November 5:00 – 7:00pm 6CF

Thursday 23rd November 3:30 – 5:30pm 6CF

Maths with Parents (Y1-6) www.mathswithparents.com

A high percentage of parents have already accessed these new support materials for learning maths at home, so at parents' evenings we will be asking for your feedback. During the evening you will be asked to complete a short questionnaire (see the 5 questions below). A copy of the questionnaire has been sent out with this letter so if easier you may complete it beforehand and then hand in to a governor or school ambassador. If you haven't accessed this resource yet then they will be on hand to help you sign up.

1. What has been good about maths with parents?
2. Which activity have you and your child enjoyed the most?
3. Do you think the activities have been easy to follow? Why?
4. Have you found the videos helpful to you and your child?
5. Is there anything you think we could improve on?

Tiny World

Through her role as a PSTT fellow Mrs Tyrell has arranged for 20 quality microscopes to be in school this term. Each year group will get the use of the microscopes for a week to undertake a special Tiny World cross curricular project. The work will then be displayed in the KS1 hall for all to enjoy. Family Club, after school on a Friday, will have a chance to use them too – so do find time to drop in and be amazed!

Dates for your diary this term – more information to follow

- Pinocchio pantomime performance at school on Tuesday 21st November
- Y5/6 performances of 'Darwin' on Wednesday 6th December: afternoon and evening
- FS Nativity in The Chapel, Irchester: : afternoon and evening
- Y3/4 build a Viking boat morning on Friday 15th December
- Children's Christmas dinner on Monday 18th December: please order on line
- Y1/2 Christmas performance Tuesday 19th December: afternoon and evening

A polite reminder for all parents who need to drive to school to be extra vigilant of other road users and park sensibly and appropriately.

Finally, the last day of term is Wednesday 20th December when school ends at the usual time. The children return to school on Thursday 4th January 2018.

Kind regards
Julia Alison

