



Wickham Common

Primary School

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Headteacher: Miss R Williams BA (Hons), NPQH

27th September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It seems that Autumn is well and truly upon us. Our gorgeous tree has heralded the turn in seasons as has our playground and field. Please can I ask that you ensure that your children all have their jumpers, cardigans and coats from here on in as we really do like to get the children out unless the rain is rather biblical- as it was today! We had to postpone the girls football trials today due to the pitch being waterlogged. But we will of course ensure that this is rescheduled as soon as is possible.

We are constantly reviewing our staffing and provisions at lunchtime across the school to ensure that all children are safe, happy and maximising their free time over this period. As part of these reviews, I have made the following changes which I wanted to share with you which will be in place commencing next week.

- Only children in the Foundation Stage classes will continue to receive the orange bands alerting parents of a bumped head or incident.
- All other classes will have a secure handover from the Mid-day team to the teaching staff at the end of lunch in order that staff can monitor the outcome of bumps and grazes etc.
- If a child has received a bump to the head or been involved in an incident we feel will need monitoring, the office staff will be given this information and continue to call parents directly.
- All incidents will continue to be logged in a central file and followed up where necessary.

The children are having their Individual and sibling photos next Thursday 3rd October with the exception of the Year 6 children, who are out on a super trip to the Science Museum. Year 6 parents have been notified of this separately with the alternative date. I am sure you will agree, the children always look so smart and happy in their photos and these are wonderful memories to capture.

On Wednesday of this week, I met with Cllr Thomas Turrell and Cllr Josh Coldspring regarding our collective concerns about the safety measures that are lacking on Gates Green Road and surrounding roads to our school. This has come after petitions have been put forward and many various conversations and emails from yourselves and us as a school to lobby for practical measures to be put in place to slow and stem traffic on these roads. It was a productive discussion which culminated in the Cllrs agreeing that we should, at the very least, be able to push for a 20 Mile an hour limit to be enforced during term time. I have also made it clear that I would like there to be a full Zebra crossing laid out for our children outside the school, which would help to ensure safe passage across the busy road, but also should help to stem traffic speed. I have also raised that I would like there to be far more stringent measures in place for parking - to include the tarmac of our parking areas and allocated parking bays for all spaces. I have also asked the Cllrs to look into the possibility of having our own crossing person, which I know some schools run through volunteer parents. Other traffic calming measures were discussed, but to allow traffic flow this would be detrimental to other areas which is already lacking in safe parking spaces. I am hopeful that the outcome of this meeting will be positive and we shall see some changes soon. I feel these can not

come quickly enough as there have been incidents already this term of speeding and reckless driving outside our school. I would like to remind parents to be courteous and not park over driveways in the roads surrounding the school and please ensure you are yourselves driving carefully and within the speed limits when picking up your children. Lastly our two disabled bays are only to be used by blue badge holders.

Our Values children this week are:-

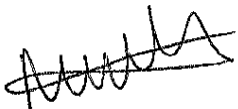
1 Ash	Fern	Kindness
1 Maple	Lorna-Marie	Responsibility
2 Elm	Stanley	Integrity
2 Holly	Claudia	Effort
3 Cherry	Chidumebi	Kindness
3 Horse Chesnut	Mila	Effort
4 Hazel	Bea	Respect
4 Poplar	Hannah	Responsibility
5 Beech	Ruby	Kindness
5 Willow	Amy	Kindness
6 Lime	Fraser	Kindness

May I take this opportunity to remind you all that we are holding our Parent consultations next week on Tuesday and Thursday. If you have yet to sign up on Arbor for your child's teacher, please ensure you have done so before 8pm Monday as these lists will then be closed. May I also remind you that children, other than Year 6 children, will not be permitted into the building for these consultations so please ensure other child care arrangements are in place. Whilst we ask for all parents and carers to sign their phones in now for any meetings with staff, this will obviously not be logistically possible on these evenings. However, please may I remind you that none of my staff give permission to be recorded or filmed during these meetings so, I respectfully ask that you ensure your mobile phones and all devices are switched off during this time.

Happy's Circus is coming to Wickham Common next Friday and I am really looking forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to join in with the fun and laughter of the evening. There are still tickets available so please do not hesitate to purchase these on Arbor/School Shop until 9am on 2nd October.

Finally, there is a change on the school lunches next week. Next Thursday children will be offered Friday's menu of Fish and Chips and on the Friday, they will be served the Thursday's menu of Beef Bolognese.

Yours sincerely,



Miss Rebecca Williams
Headteacher



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