

Puddletown CEVC First School

'Inspiring learners to be the best they can be'

Newsletter No. 2

21st September 2018

Dear Parent,

I hope that your children are feeling settled in their new classes and that the usual school routines are well established.

Reading and spelling

We are looking at how we can develop our teaching of spellings this year and this will be a focus for us on our parent information evening in November. All Y2, 3 and 4 children will be having spelling lists of words they are working on during the week. They will be assessed on their ability to use and spell these words. This year this won't be as a traditional spelling test but the ability to use the words within a sentence helping us to look at writing as a whole rather than just as an ability to spell a word. We will be highlighting the spelling mistakes within their sentences of the words within the week's list and either previously taught words or common words that should be spelt correctly for the curriculum year they are in. We will also highlight punctuation or sentence construction errors. For the older children this may be in the form of self or peer assessment. The assessments will be in the children's next step books which will enable you to see what spellings you can focus on at home.

It is a fact that good spellers are good readers, so please keep up the home reading!

Parent Questionnaire

Thank you for your responses, the results are attached.

End of day

Another area we are looking to develop this year is developing the learning environment outside of the classes. This is difficult for staff if the resources they put out are moved or damaged by children on collection at the end of the day. Please do make sure that all children are supervised at pick up. One solution if this doesn't happen is that we arrange collections in the playground used at the start of the day. We really want to avoid this if possible

Socks!

We have noticed a variety of socks this year. Please can we stick to grey or white and not trainer socks? Thank you!

E Schools

This is our new form of communication. Please make sure that you are registered on the system.

This can be done via the website

www.puddletownfirst.dorset.sch.uk. Please contact the office if you require assistance.

Hot Meals

We hope your children are enjoying their hot meals. As we have a new supplier any feedback would be welcome.

Helping boys!

We began our new year using part of our training day looking at how boys are different and the ways in which this impacts on their learning and response to school. We are continuing with this across the year using the research from Gary Wilson. For those of you with boys this clip '*Parents- Boys will be brilliant*' may be of interest

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u8ieFsoXA5k>

Open Day

Parents of pre-school children have until 15th January to complete their school applications. Visits are always welcome for prospective parents but to help we will have an open day on 21st November 9.30am -11.30am and 6.00pm – 7.30pm.

Middle School.

Applications for the Middle School also close on 15th January.

FOPs

As ever we are really grateful to FOPs for all their work. In 2017/18 they spent an incredible £8900 on the school! This included over £1000 on supporting our school trips and £5000 on our roundhouse. I know they have big plans for spending in 2018/19 so if you are able to help at all do get in touch.

Diary Dates

25 Sept – Class R drop in sessions 3.15pm
02 Oct – School Photos
08 Oct – Harvest Service @ Church 2pm
10 Oct – Year 3 Open Afternoon 1.45pm
16 Oct – Parents Evening 2-5pm
17 Oct – Reflection Day
18 Oct – Parents Evening 4-7.30pm
19 Oct – Break Up
29 Oct – INSET DAY
30 Oct – Return to school
31 Oct – School nurse drop in session
13 Nov – Year 4 open afternoon 1.45pm
13 Nov – Parent meeting re: spellings 6.30pm
14 Nov – M&M Production
15 Nov – Class R open afternoon 1.45pm
21 Nov – Open day for new YR parents for Sept 19
21 Nov – Year 2 open afternoon 1.45pm
28 Nov – Year 1 open afternoon 1.45pm
11 Dec – Carols around the Village 5pm
11 Dec – Whole school 'Nasal Flu' vaccinations
13 Dec – Carol Service @ Church 2pm
17& 18 Dec - Christmas production – details TBC
21 Dec – Break up

Communication

If you need to contact me at all please do catch me on the gate in the morning, contact the school office or email me head@puddletownfirst.dorset.sch.uk