



Issue 18 2nd July 2021

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Dear Parents and Carers,

It was a sad day in school last Friday as Sarah New's funeral took place. If you followed the streaming of the service you'll be aware what a moving service it was. Sarah lived life to the full, and gave everything she had to supporting children and their families both at work and in her spare time. The funeral helped put our day to day worries into perspective, and reminded us of how positively we can influence those around us by the time and trouble we take to support others. Next term we'll be fundraising to develop an outdoor space in her memory.

There has been some concern locally and nationally about the increased number of Covid cases once again, with the Delta variant being the most dominant form in the UK now. Public Health England issued a statement to schools yesterday stating that it is now the case that if anyone (child or staff member) tests positive through a Lateral Flow Test then all close contacts should immediately self-isolate. Previously the directive was to wait until a PCR test was taken, but not now – this is an attempt to prevent the disease spreading further. Anyone who returns a positive test does still need to get a PCR test, and if this comes back negative then the isolation can cease. This has been highly disruptive in other parts of the county, with some schools needing to close. We have been fortunate to date that we have had a few staff needing to isolate, but nothing too widespread. We really need to keep everything crossed that we can make it through to the end of term without further disruption.

I am very grateful to those parents who attended our forum this week. We are really keen to get as many of your views as possible, but the small group were very helpful in giving us a steer for future events and raising general issues in the school. From our parent survey (we'll share the full results of this at the start of next year) there was a theme that some parents found our reporting hard to understand (through the PPPs) and our discussion around what parts of that work well or don't was very insightful. We also had a helpful discussion around children's attendance, a topic I brought up in a previous newsletter. Just to reassure parents, each individual case is looked at if there are issues around a child's attendance, and parents are always contacted to discuss reasons and possible solutions if problems are evident.

A little over 2 weeks to go until the end of term! Bradley Taylor, headteacher

Summer Term 2021

Monday 7th June 2021 – Wednesday 21st July

Parent workshops/events

Tuesday 13th July 10-11.15 - Recharge: time out for parents (Liz Webber)

Wednesday 14th July 10-11 - When Dreams

Wednesday 14th July 10-11 - When Dreams Change (Liz Webber)

Week commencing 12th July – Parents Evening



if a child has a medical appointment during school time, please can you provide evidence for our records. Parents can also show messages from NHS portal as we are aware that everything tends to be electronic.

Congratulations to Caitlin
Steadman from Woodland
department for raising
£5000 by herself from the
Sports Day activities! Wow!

News from around the school

Rainbow

This week we have been sharing classes for September with you, transition books will be coming home next week with your child, and we would appreciate you supporting us by sharing these with them. Transition will look a little different in comparison to previous years, but we want to support the children the best we can given the restrictions that are in place. If you do have any questions, please do get in touch. Thank you for the sponsor money that has continued to come in which will be going towards some durable outdoor OT equipment. There is still time to donate through parent mail should you wish. I hope you all have a lovely weekend. Hannah G

Little Wings

Thank you for all of your kind donations for sports day. We are looking forward to using this to get some equipment for outside. There is still time to place a donation over Parentmail if you would like to. Please contact your class teacher or the office if you need support with this. Hannah H

Treetops

Thank you to all those who have donated for sports day. We are looking forward to putting the money towards some outdoor equipment. Sports day was a huge success and the students enjoyed taking part in all 5 events including: egg and spoon race, obstacle course, walking race, relay race and using the fitness equipment. The end of term is fast approaching and just to let you know we will be having a celebration assembly to award students certificates for their individual highlights, a leavers assembly and a lunch and some music the last week of term. David

Woodland

The pupils worked so hard while taking part in 'The Big 5 Challenge' last week. They all did so brilliantly! The outdoor sensory trail was a highlight of the week, and it was lovely to see such smiley faces while the pupils interacted and explored the sounds, music, balloons, visual stimuli and textures along the way. We are very proud of you all. Well done! A huge thank you to all of the parents, grandparents, carers, family members and friends who sponsored the children. We are extremely grateful for your efforts and for the money you have raised, which will go towards ceiling hoists and overhead tracking in our classrooms. Amanda

Coppice

By now I hope you will have received photos of the Big 5 Sports Day challenge. Each class has had a mini award ceremony to celebrate their achievements.

Thank you again for sponsorships- Parentmail is still open for any donations that have not yet been added.

As the end of year approaches, we will start to talk to children about changes and transitions - this can cause some anxiety and excitement for children, please continue to communicate with the class teams so that they can support you as needed.

Thank you! Salma

Gemstones

Thank you for all your donations for our sports events these will be put towards the redevelopment of the swing area. With the end of the academic year, we have been looking at the upcoming transitions for our year sixes. Over the last few weeks, we have been working on our transmission missions, we have looking at getting ready for changes, showing pictures of our new schools, timetables and thinking about expected behaviour in different lessons.

We were really hoping we would be able to visit our new schools in person, sadly we are not, under current Covid guidelines. We have already hosted one online question and answer session with Stony Dean and will be arranging more in the next couple of weeks.

We would like to invite all Gemstones children to a disco on 6th July during the day and we hope to bid our year 6 leavers farewell in an assembly on 16th July; a video celebrating our fantastic year 6's will be shared on the website and photos on Do Jo.

More details to follow. Sarah

Health and Therapies

Connie and Susan have been working with some of the Rainbow children and staff this term, and wanted to share how well this has been going. The children have been exploring food through play. The children have enjoyed this, and become more confident and engaged as the sessions have gone on. Connie and Susan hope to continue this success on in September.

Thanks, The Health and Therapies Team.

Treetops Sports Day





Monies raised so far:	
Coppice	£1,156
Gemstone	£536
Little Wings	£765
Rainbow	£240
Tree Tops	£627
Woodland	£845







