

POTTEN END C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter

Date

It is amazing how quickly this term is flying by as we seem to be fast approaching the end of the academic year!

Exciting opportunities

We are very excited to announce that a 'quiz team' from Year 6 accompanied by Mrs Brown and Mrs Sharpling flew to Scotland to compete in CBBC's television show 'Top Class'. After completing quizzes and being interviewed via Skype our team became one of only 11 in the United Kingdom to be chosen! The show is due to be screened in October and we will keep you posted on when you can cheer for Potten End in their bid to be the 'Top Class'!

Nursery

Since last writing to you, I must comment on our wonderful Nursery children. They are joining us for our Special Person Collective Worship on a Friday. During this time they are sitting quietly, listening to all of the special people awards. They are especially excited when their friends are nominated and have to come to the front of the hall for their certificate. In addition to this, I must say I am so impressed with their maturity as they join the school for their transition sessions.

We still have a small number of spaces available within our Nursery next year. Children can start in September or can join us later in the year (if you are concerned about your child not being ready to start in September and would prefer a January start). If you know anybody that might be interested, please ask them to pop into the office or contact myself to have tour/chat about the options that are available to them.

Summer

As summer seems to have arrived, please apply a high factor sun cream before school - it should last up to 6 hours. School staff cannot apply creams and children should not have non-

prescription creams and lotions in school. Please ensure that your child has a sun hat, a clear water bottle and suitable footwear including socks. Flip flops, crocs etc. are not suitable for school.

Fiddle Spinners

I would ask the children not to bring fiddle spinners into school. My reasons are:

- They are getting lost or misplaced (and then we have unhappy children)
- In lessons, they encourage distraction and fiddling and the children are therefore not concentrating

Scooters

Just to remind you we have a small scooter park situated by the new building. We have a lovely new sign that was designed and made by Izzy in Year 4 to show everybody where it is. Thank you Izzy!

Testing Times!

I would just like to say how impressed I have been with the maturity and sensible behaviour of all the children within the school whilst they have been undertaking either their Key Stage 1 or 2 tests or the optional tests, that have been going on this week. The staff within school do their very best to support your children and ensure that it is completed in the best environment with the least possible amount of stress and disruption possible. I like to think that in Potten End School we do value the importance of these tests, but that we also value the importance of developing well rounded, kind individuals who enjoy experiences in art, music, P.E. and all the other wonderful subjects.

Long hair

If your child has long hair - or a long fringe, please ensure that this is tied back off their face in order that they can see clearly.

PE

During the warmer, drier weather, we try to cover as much of the PE outdoor curriculum as possible. Children need suitable trainers or plimsolls for outdoor games. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 are using the Spencer Holland sports' field again for their athletics and striking and fielding games, so sun hats and water bottles are necessary.

Internet Safety

It has been brought to my attention that many children in Key Stage 2 have social media accounts (Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, Snapchat etc.). Can I please remind you that these sites are **meant for children and adults over the age of 13**. This is clearly stated within the providers' Terms and Conditions and as such, much of the material is inappropriate for children of their age. Please ensure you monitor and check your child's account to ensure their safety.

May I also politely remind everybody about posting inappropriate or potentially offensive comments and language on social media. As well as causing upset and bad feeling, it may also reflect negatively on our school, which I am sure you will agree, we are all very proud of. Thank you for your support in this.

Parking and Child Safety

I would like to remind parents not to park on the yellow lines in Church Road. **The parking restrictions in this road are there for child safety**. I cannot imagine writing a letter to you advising of a tragic accident. It is beyond comprehension - all the children within the school are so precious. I would therefore like **you** to think of all the children when 'quickly dropping off' and the dire consequences that could occur to your own or somebody else's child.

Amazing Artist

Many thanks for all the amazing entries to our Amazing Artist challenge. There have been some amazing pieces that have really shown off the childrens' talents. Their work will be on display at our Open Evening, in a mini gallery in the hall. Our next challenge will be formally announced soon! The children will have an opportunity, if they wish, to take home clay to create a fabulous design and then bring it back to school to have it fired and put on display. Watch this space!!!!

Many thanks for your continued support.

Andrew Morris
Head Teacher