

POTTEN END C of E FIRST SCHOOL

Information Letter

14 January 2014

Dear Parents

Firstly, could I please say thank you on behalf of the staff for all the gifts and good wishes we received at Christmas. Happy New Year to you all. Welcome to our new families who have joined the school this term. Friends of School are holding a Welcome Coffee Morning on Friday 24 January at 9.00 in the hall. Everyone is welcome to attend!

School Kitchen

Thank you for your patience and understanding regarding the school kitchen being out of action at the end of last term and for the first few days back. I am pleased to say that the roof has been repaired. Mrs Brazer and Mr Hayes have both worked incredibly hard to provide cold lunches - it is far more time consuming making 100 filled rolls with healthy accompaniments than it is to make a Shepherd's Pie and a hot pudding! Hopefully the children enjoyed the change.

Ross and Andy's Football.

I am aware that some of the children are disappointed that this club is not running during the building work. Ross and I tried very hard to find a way to run the club for the rest of this school year - but logistically we were defeated! Once we have the formal agreement and the Sports Field counts as school premises, I want to reassure you that Ross will be running the club in a more expanded form from September. This club will be held on the Sport's Field and will have two coaches, enabling it to have a bigger membership with Years 3, 4 and 5 participating. We will also be able to hold a Cricket Club and other sports clubs that require more space.

Clubs

Please make a note of date changes to some of the clubs. Our usual schedule has been disrupted by the KS2 participation in Young Voices and Rock Challenge and also the lower school visit to the Look Out Discovery Centre. If you are unsure of any of the arrangements relating to clubs or visits, it would be really helpful for the office staff if you could consult our website and not telephone.

Bags 2 Schools

If you have unwanted/outgrown clothing, bed linen, soft toys, paired shoes, hats, belts or handbags to donate, please collect a bag from the foyer. The filled bags need to be returned to school either after 3.15pm on Wednesday 29 January or before 9.00am on Thursday 30 January. Please don't send it in early - we are very short of storage space!

Supporting Reading at home

Children need to practise reading - ideally every day. They will read to an adult at school perhaps twice a week, but in order for them to become skilled readers and fulfil their potential, it is vital that they read to an adult more often. We therefore ask for your help - just 10 minutes several times a week is very beneficial and should be a really enjoyable time for you to spend together. Please ensure that you record in your child's Reading Record book that you have heard them read.

Mornings and developing independence

Reception Class children should now be able to say goodbye in the mornings outside the walkway and come into the cloakroom area unaccompanied. Please ensure that your child carries their own belongings to and from school.

Please send correspondence to the office via your child's book bag. However, if you need to visit the school office after dropping your child off, please would you mind walking round and accessing the office from the front door. This is in line with Safeguarding requirements. Please do not park on Church Road, The Front or The Green. If you park in the Village Hall car park, please depart swiftly in time for their clients to use the car park. Park and Stride is going well! Thank you.

Also, if you have a child in Reception or Year 1 and you arrive after the walkway doors have been closed, please ensure you enter the school via the main Reception entrance and sign your

child in. Please do not use the Nursery entrance. It is vital that we know exactly which children we have in school at all times and occasionally registration of a child is being missed because they have come in late without either being registered or signed in. Thank you.

Christmas DVDs

Just a reminder that DVDs of the Christmas plays are still available to purchase via WisePay, until the end of January.

Jane Senior
HEADTEACHER

POTTEN END C OF E FIRST SCHOOL DIARY SPRING TERM 2014

Date	Time	Event
Wednesday 15 January	day	Year 4 trip to British Museum
Friday 17 January	2.30pm	Parent Forum meeting
Friday 24 January	9.00am	New Parent's coffee morning
Monday 27 January	day	Young Voices event
Wednesday 29 January	11.30am	New Nursery parents meeting (letter to follow)
Thursday 30 January	by 9.00am	Bag 2 School collection
	3.15pm	Year 1 Phonics Meeting (crèche available) (letter to follow)
	7.30pm	Full Governing Body meeting
Tuesday 4 February	day	All years - Commonwealth Games Day (letter to follow)
Wednesday 5 February	3.15pm	Year 1 Phonics Meeting (crèche available) (letter to follow)
	3.30pm	Year 4 Benchball game at St Mary's, Berkhamsted
Saturday 8 February	evening	Holy Trinity quiz (letter to follow)
Sunday 9 February	4.00-6.00pm	Messy Church
Wednesday 12 February	day	Years R, 1 & 2 Trip to Look Out Discovery Centre
Friday 14 February	3.15pm	BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM
Monday 24 February	day	INSET DAY (school closed)
Tuesday 25 February	day	Rock Challenge event
Friday 28 February	day	'Wear Yellow' day (letter to follow)
Monday 3 March	9.30am	Service in Holy Trinity Church - all welcome
Tuesday 4 March	afternoon	Years 1-4 Road Safety demonstration with Gist
Thursday 20 March	day	Science Day
Friday 21 March		Reports to parents
Monday 24 March	3.15pm	Book Fair in school hall
Tuesday 25 March	3.30-6.00pm	All Years - Parent Consultations
Wednesday 26 March	1.15-5.00pm	Years N, 1, 2, 3 & 4 - Parent Consultations
Thursday 27 March	1.30-6.00pm	All Years - Parent Consultations
Friday 28 March	10.15am	Upper school - Mothering service in Holy Trinity Church (crèche in Year 3) (letter to follow)
	11.15am	Lower school - Mothering service in Holy Trinity Church (crèche in Year 3) (letter to follow)
	3.15pm	Book Fair in school hall
Friday 4 April	1.30pm	BREAK UP FOR EASTER HOLIDAYS

We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 22 April