

Additional information for Reception class parents and families new to the school Summer 2019



There are several events coming up that have been mentioned in the school newsletter and you may have been wondering what these are about.

If you have any queries or concerns about the school please do let us know, as we are keen to ensure that you have all the information you need so that your child's experience of school is happy and successful and that you are able to support them at key moments in their school life.

Gala concert – Wednesday 19th June at 7.00pm

This involves children in Y3 to Y6 showing their musical talent. Children audition to sing or play at the concert. Mrs Lyne, our music teacher, draws together a programme from the school choir, the orchestra and the children who were successful in the auditions.

Sports day – Friday 19th July

Sports day for the younger children in Year R, Year 1 and Year 2 begins after lunch, starting at about 1.30pm. The sports events for the children in KS2, Years 3 to 6, are held in the morning beginning at about 9.20am. Many parents and grandparents come to watch. **Parents arriving for the afternoon sports day are not admitted to the school grounds until 1.15pm** when the children have all finished their lunchtime break and gone in to class.

At the start of the sports day event, the children parade around the race track with their classes while parents look on. Children then sit down and await their turn to run the flat races. All children compete in the races. There are usually two boys' teams and two girls' teams in each class. The teachers practice this with the children and organise the children into appropriate groups. Following the flat races the children are split into groups of mixed ages. We try to keep siblings in the same group where possible so parents can go to watch them as they take part in the activities around the field. The groups take part in activities such as skipping, egg and spoon race, tossing bean bags to a target etc.

Parent help is needed to provide instruction for the groups as they arrive at the activities. The parent helper at each activity base follows the instructions provided and tells each group as they arrive at the activity they are supervising what to do. We try to get parents of older children to do this so that you can track your child as they move around the activities. Our sports leaders also support with this aspect of the sports afternoon. The groups of children then have a few minutes to do the activity as many times as possible. A score is kept. The children in the school are divided into four teams. At the end of the day the winning team is given a round of applause and two children from Year 2 in that team are chosen to collect the cup.

If it is sunny don't forget the sun cream! Children should have their sun cream applied before they come to school in the morning and come prepared with school caps and water bottles. The FCCS sell drinks for visitors. Children bring their water bottles out with them so they can drink water as and when they need. Please do not try to give your child snacks or other drinks during the afternoon.

At the end of afternoon, some parents kindly help us to clear away all the equipment. Any offers of help are gratefully received, as all the chairs and mats have to go back to the hall. If you would be able to help with the Year 3 to 6 sports day in the morning please let the office staff know.

Adventure playgrounds

The FCCS have provided us with lovely adventure play equipment. We do not allow children on this before or after school because, although you might be watching your children carefully, not everyone is so careful and some children will play unsupervised. So for health and safety reasons, we tell the children that these areas are out of bounds before and after school.

Transition meetings – dates to follow in newsletter

Arrangements for which teacher will take which class next year are still being finalised. We will let you know once these are finalised. Transition meetings are set for parents to meet their child's new teacher. These meetings last about half an hour and are usually held in the hall or meeting room. The teacher will talk briefly about the learning and expectations for the next class and then answer any general questions from the group.

Once the meeting is finished the teacher may be able to speak to any individuals who have concerns that relate particularly to your child.

Children will also have a chance to meet their new teacher and visit their new classroom before the end of term. Where the teacher is new to the school, they will be visiting the school for at least two days and will spend some of that time in the class with children while they are working. Your child's current class teacher will meet with the teacher taking the class on. They will discuss information about assessment levels, targets, friendships, learning attitudes and any other information or concerns about your child.

School production – Madagascar – 10th and 11th July at 7.30 pm

For a number of years the Year 6 children have put on a musical production. The Year 5 children provide an additional backing chorus. The children work very hard on this with Mrs Lyne, their class teachers and other staff and volunteers. The productions are very professional and enjoyable. A number of parents from across the school buy tickets to see the performance which is held on two evenings. The children in Reception through to Year 4 all come to watch the dress rehearsal during the day. Some children are keen to come again and see an evening performance. Further details about purchasing tickets will be sent out nearer the time.

Leavers' service – Tuesday 23rd July at 9.30 am

This takes place at Christ Church church. The Year 6 children contribute to the service, sharing some memories from their time at the school. We pray for the children. This gives the children's perspective on their time at school and is a truly special occasion. All are welcome to attend. The church welcomes visitors for coffee before the service starts. The service lasts about an hour.

Scooters and bikes

It is lovely that so many children ride bikes or scooters to school. There are bike racks and scooter racks on the field near the play fort where these can be kept during the day. Children can bring a lock to secure the bikes and scooters. Children are not allowed to ride these on the school premises.

Mary Pike

12th June 2019