

Deal Parochial Church of England (Aided) Primary School

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Dear Parents / Carers

School Expansion

Kent County Council (KCC) as the strategic commissioner of education in Kent is consulting on the proposal to expand Deal Parochial CE (Aided) Primary School, Gladstone Road, Deal, CT14 7ER. The proposal being to expand Deal Parochial CE (Aided) Primary School from one form entry (1FE) (210 pupils), to the capacity of a two form entry (420 pupils) over a phased period of time starting from September 2018.

The consultation will take place between Friday 27th January 2017 and Friday 3rd March 2017. A public meeting will be held in the school hall on Monday 6th February starting at 5:15pm.

A copy of the Public Consultation Document and information about how you can respond to the consultation can be found on the school website and from Friday 27 January at:

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-consultations#tab-1>

As parents/carers of pupils at this school, you also will receive a paper copy.

These are also being distributed to the local residents, churches, Library, local amenities and businesses.

Other School News

Year 4 Cake Sale

Friday January 27th January – Year 4 are holding their cake sale on the playground at the end of the school day collecting money for our PTFA.

Chinese New Year



Monday 30th January – The school will give a short assembly about the Chinese New Year which is celebrated over the weekend by many towns, cities and communities in the UK.



We live in a diverse, multi – cultural country where the British values of respect and tolerance are so well carried out. This can really be demonstrated in the way communities join together and share cultural high lights.

Chinese New Year takes place on a different date every year, because it is based on the lunar calendar. The lunar calendar means the celebration always falls on a different date - unlike the January 1 New Year we are used to, based on the Gregorian calendar.

Chinese New Year is celebrated with the ringing of bells, the lighting of firecrackers and watching traditional lion dances.



On New Year's Day, families gather, clean their houses and sweep away bad-fortune.

Red envelopes stuffed with "lucky money" are given to children, along with written wishes for their kids to grow up healthy. However, Chinese New Year has also been touched by the digital age, with red envelope apps - where people can exchange cyber money - being launched.

People also decorate their houses with red paper cut outs, banners and special New Year paintings during the festive period. This year is also likely to see Rooster themed decorations.

In China, New Year's Eve is seen as an important date, with families gathering together for a reunion dinner. Firecrackers are then let off to signal the end of last year and the beginning of next.

Our bigger cities have large Chinese communities and celebrate in style, watch out for London's famous parade, the huge celebrations in Manchester and in Newcastle.

Over 700,000 people flock to celebrate Chinese New Year in London, making their festivities the largest outside of Asia. Celebrations will take place on Sunday 29th January between 10am and 6pm in Trafalgar Square, Chinatown and across the West End and are all free to attend.

Kicking off with a colourful parade that snakes from Charing Cross Road to Shaftesbury Avenue, the lively display will include dragon dancers, vibrant, hand-crafted floats and martial arts - all led by a flying Chinese lion.





The London Eye will also join the citywide celebrations with a specially designed red and gold lightshow every hour from 4pm over the weekend, as well as "surprise and delight moments" for maximum excitement.

Manchester will be hosting a four day long extravaganza, spanning from Thursday 26th - Sunday 29th January.

Newcastle will be ringing in the Year of the Rooster on Sunday 29th January with a full day of Chinese-inspired events, performances and activities for all ages.

Food deals for staying in on Chinese New Year!

Supermarkets and takeaways are celebrating the colourful event with Chinese-themed meal deals for food lovers all over the country to indulge in.

- Waitrose are offering two mains and three sides for £10 in their Chinese & Asian meal deal.
- Morrisons have a 4 for £4 Stir Fry meal deal, ideal for those who want to be healthy.
- Tesco are doing 3 for £6 on their Chinese ready meals.
- Sainsbury's have discounts across an array of Chinese products so you can make exactly what you fancy.

Why not join in our multi-cultural celebrations?

As a little extra piece of general knowledge homework, can all children bring a fact about China to our school assembly on Monday 30th to share with everyone? Thank you

Year 6 Bikeability

Week of 30-01-17 Year 6 will be bringing their bikes into school in order to carry out the Bikeability safety award. Please make sure the bikes are all safely parked and that no children touch the bikes.



Attendance

Through our regular monitoring of attendance and late arrivals I have noticed that the attendance figure for our school has dropped.

Looking at the print outs for each class most of the non-attendance cannot be avoided, being caused by genuine illness and viral infections that have lingered on.

However, the school is set attendance targets by the Local Authority and the Department for Education expect all schools to attain for 97% attendance.

Our school attendance has fallen to 94% and we must do something about it.

Each week we will present the **Attendance Cup** to the class that has the highest attendance figure. We will also present the new character in school a **Punctuality Pup**. This is a cuddly toy that can stay with the winning class for the week. **Don't forget school gates shut at 8.50am, aim to get to school before this time.** Thank you.

We have put up a new celebration display in the school hall to record each week's winners.

I will be contacting some parents, to invite you in, to talk about ways we may be able to support you and your child in improving individual attendance.

Thank you to all parents / carers who phone the school in the morning s to let us know any reason for non-attendance and for supporting the school's attendance policy

Please keep to the governor's attendance policy of holidays being taken only during school holiday times.

Safer Internet Day

Don't forget that Safer Internet Day is approaching. February 7th 2017.

“Be the Change; Unite for a better internet”.

Pupils in Robins, Barn Owls, and Goldfinch classes will present their awareness campaign to KS 1 parents/ carers at 9:15 am.

The hall doors will be opened at 8:50 am for parent s to come into the hall, sign in please then warm up with a cup of tea / coffee and mingle and wait for the start of the presentation.

This is an important part of our constant educational programme for keeping ourselves safe. Many parents find the whole area of internet safety very daunting as it changes so rapidly. Please come along and listen to each class presentation and find out about the current issues we all tackle together.

Later in the day it is the turn for KS 2 to give their presentation to you. The doors will open at 2:15pm to start at 2:30pm.



Again the hall doors will be open for you to come into school this way. Tea and coffee will be available before the show starts.

Again each class will stand at the front to pass on their topic of internet safety.

Term dates: Term 3 ends on Friday 10th February 2017.
Term 4 starts with us all back to school on Monday 20th February 2017

Parent running Deal Half Marathon in aid of St Mary's Church

Karen Hodgson is currently training to take part in the Deal Half Marathon on 12th February in aid of the Church tower at St Mary's in Walmer, whose roof is in urgent need of repairs. She would really appreciate any sponsorship; her Just Giving link is:

www.justgiving.com/Karen-Hodgson71

A moment for reflection:

A Winter Prayer

Let us huddle together this morning,
our community a place of warmth in our lives
as we share the flame of hope and connection.
Let us allow the frost of isolation and bitterness to melt away
as we open ourselves to a sense of peace and spirit.
We extend our thoughts to all those who are cold this morning,
lacking shelter or love to keep them warm.
Let us wrap our prayers around them and each other like scarves,
and wish each other safe journeys through the storm.
May we be insulated from fear as the earth is insulated by the snow,
And, like bulbs, may we continue to grow and open inside, despite the cold,
Ready for the spring, to stretch and grow towards justice.
Amen
Keep warm!

Kind regards
Justine Brown
Head Teacher

