

# Deal Parochial Church of England (Aided) Primary School

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## Autumn Newsletter No 2.

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are all feeling fully settled back in to the term and the new academic year.

The children have demonstrated remarkable resilience and positive Growth Mind-set towards their curriculum. Well done one and all!

I would like to thank all the families who sent in entries to our Spiritual Garden design competition. Mrs Reynolds and I thoroughly enjoyed looking over all the designs last Friday. They are all valued and show a level of pride and reflection towards how children can tune into their mindfulness and inner selves. Many common themes and ideas are expressed. In particular, children drew pictures of stepping stones showing Christian values. Wind chimes and water features were also a popular choice making links with the joy and peace we gather from the natural world. Many children also included sensory gardens, explaining how this helps them feel peaceful, to reflect and find the awe and wonder in our world. Other fantastic ideas included places to sit and feel warm and comfy and quiet; activities such as mazes, decorated pebbles with key human rights painted on them and finally many children drew wigwam type places to find a place for solace and privacy.

We were so impressed by the thoughtfulness shown by all the entree's, that as well as some lovely prizes to give out, we have decided to create a thank you for "taking part" certificate to present to pupils; these will be given out this week.

A display of the children's designs will be going up in the front corridor and you can find a Blog and some pictures on our web site. Well done everyone, thank you!

The next step will be to pull out the different ideas and start to plan the garden.



## Harvest Preparations.

Today all of the school are taking part in our **Harvest Landscapes Art Day**. The aim of this is to promote skills and enjoyment of art through a school combined project. We will have some visitors in school working with small groups of children as well as all the teachers, conducting art throughout the day. We intend to display some of the children's work at St Leonard's Church ready to celebrate the Harvest.

**The service will take place on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October at 10am.** All families are welcome to join us at the church. Each class will step up to the front in order to deliver a short harvest message, through prayers, poems, hymns and their reflections.

We will also link up with St Leonard's Church to collect for the Mustard – Seed – Relief Mission. **This is called Love in a Box.**

You should have received a leaflet that tells you all about this charity and how you can join in.

In essence, you can collect up and put items into a shoe box so that the gifts are suitable for a specific age and gender. There are some examples in the foyer.

- Boys 3-5yrs old, Girls 3-5yrs
- Boys 6-11yrs / Girls 6-11 yrs
- Boys 12-15 yrs old / Girls 12-15 yrs old.

It is lovely if you can wrap the box in Christmas wrapping paper ready to be a donated gift to a very needy and underprivileged person. I know that Christmas seems a long way off, but this is a nationally organised charity that takes considerable time and organisation to coordinate. There is also the opportunity to donate an amount of money through the Love in a Box leaflet.

Please could you take time to discuss with your children what gifts an underprivileged child may like to receive and promote the act of giving and kindness to people less fortunate than ourselves.

I would really appreciate some parents' time and help in order to collect in and sort out the 'Love in a Box' donations. If you can help us on the week of Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October, please come into the office and let us know. Thank you.



The dead line to bring the filled boxes into school is Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

However, it would be lovely to take some of the finished boxes to St Leonard's **Church for our Harvest Service on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October** for display so that the children can see that we are working in collaboration with our local church. We ask you to contribute to this charity instead of collecting traditional harvest produce.

### **Deal Time Town Detectives**

This is a collaborative, ongoing project that all our local primary schools in Deal have taken part in. Pupils from every school have been working together in order to carry out a local history project supported by local historians and Mr Bill Butler. The project will culminate in a grand celebration to mark the opening of the Royal Marines Trail that takes you around the history and memories of the Royal Marines in Deal Town.

Pupils were asked to take part in designing the front cover of the published trail. I am very proud to announce that Beau E-N's design, a pupil in year 5 has been selected as the winning design. His art work will be published and used for the general public as they take up the trail. Well done Beau.

**The launch for the trail is April 23<sup>rd</sup> 2018.** There will be many dignitaries and the Royal Marines visiting our town. Our pupils have been asked to be part of this celebration so please save the date and watch out for further exciting updates.

### **Deal Parochial class and community choirs - CD**

Please encourage your children to take part in the design competition for the CD cover. Again the winning design will be printed and used to promote our very own musical talents and school stars. Mrs Spencer has sent a letter out with this information. We are all busy rehearsing the songs.

### **Macmillan Charity Coffee morning - Deal Parochial Expressive Arts Centre**


Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2017. 9am – 11am. All welcome.

Come along, bring some cakes or just come to enjoy a cup of tea / coffee and a chat to raise money for the cancer charity. Thank you.



Attendance this term so far:-

Attendance–All Pupils	97.8%	Target 96%
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Attendance	Number	Percentage	
Percentage of pupils at 96% and above	171	83.4%	Well done – keep it up! 
Percentage of pupils between 90-96%	21	10.2%	Room for improvement.
Percentage of pupils below 90%	13	6.3%	Oh dear – you can do better!
Total number on roll:	205	100%	

Class Attendance up to 22.9.17	
Year 1	98.6
Year 2	98.1
Year 3	95.2
Year 4	97.9
Year 5	99.0
Year 6	95.6
All 1-6	97.4

**Pause for reflection;**

Thank you to Bo C. in Silver Birch class for writing this very thoughtful prayer.

**Dear Lord,**

**Thank you for guiding us throughout our day at school.**

**For helping to make the things we think are hard, easier to complete.**

**Thank you for the friendships we have made and the confidence you’ve given us to believe in ourselves.**

**Thank you for always being there for us whenever we need you.**

**Please keep us safe on our journeys home and watch over the ones we love whilst we rest.**

**Protect us from evil and give us the strength to face tomorrow’s challenges.**

**Amen.**

**Bo C. (Year 5)**

