

# Deal Parochial Church of England (Aided) Primary School

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## Autumn Term 1 - Parent / Carer Newsletter

A very warm welcome back to school to everyone.

I have enjoyed catching up with the children and families so far this week, hearing and sharing holiday news.

All the children have arrived with smiles, looking very smart in their school uniforms. Thank you for setting those alarm clocks and for the shiny shoes; the new term is always a shock to our systems!!

Please remember to name and label all personal belongings. Mrs Knight organises the lost property and is always amazed at how children misplace new coats, towels, shoes, and of course, cardigans. If they have a name on them a member of staff will always return the lost item to the owner. This saves us all time and money. Thank you.

There will be a school dates / information poster sent out to you soon; I am just waiting to finalise some arrangements with various people.

However, school never stands still so here are a few, first week back, dates and invitations.

**Year 6** – Kent Test for Grammar school selection will be taking place throughout Thursday. If you have registered your child to take these tests please ensure that they arrive to school punctually, having had a good night's sleep and feeling positive. The tests are externally invigilated.

Pupils not taking the tests will carry on with suitable activities elsewhere in the school. Play times may be slightly disrupted for everyone on this day as we will be required to time the tests.

### Meet the Teacher

Parent/ Carers are invited to drop into your child's new classroom in order to familiarise yourselves with the class environment, the teacher and hear about some of the learning, homework, and year expectations. It is not intended to be a 1-1 meeting, rather an opportunity to meet, introduce and ask general questions about the routines and curriculum topics that are ahead this year.

Yr GROUPS	DATES	TIME
Yr 5 & 6	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> September.	15:30 – 16:00
Yr 3 & 4	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> September.	16:05 – 16:35
Yr 1 & 2	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> September	15:30 – 16:00

You will receive a termly newsletter from your child's class teacher (this will also be posted on the school website) providing information about the topic, homework and main learning focus.



## School Expansion Update

Some governors and I met with the building contractors and the local authority at the end of the July term. We looked at and discussed some initial plans for the new school building for the planners to take away and work on.

A further meeting will take place on 13-09-17.

**Year 3** – Sycamore Tree class will start their tennis lessons at the Tennis Centre at Tides on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September.

Please ensure that your child has the correct PE kit kept in school in a cloth pull string bag; labelled with their name.

**Year 5** – Silver Birch class are continuing their Royal Marines Trail project on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September. We are delighted that Mr Bill Butler will be taking the whole class on the Deal Royal Marines Trail. Letters will be sent to Yr 5 parents.

## Spiritual Garden Poster Competition.

Thank you to those families who have already sent in their entries. The closing date for this family project is 14-09-17.

Please join in as it gives you all the opportunity to suggest your ideas for what we may eventually include in our spiritual garden, which governors have agreed to develop adjacent to the playground and behind the foundation stage class – away from the noisy sounds of the traffic.

Information about the Spiritual garden competition can be found on our web site or drop into school to pick up a paper copy.

## Music and Choir

We have two very exciting opportunities for all the children this term.

Mrs Spencer has arranged for every class to record a song, our staff and governors and hopefully a parent choir also, to make a recording in order to produce our very own DP CD!

The date for recording is booked for 18-09-17.

Additionally I am very excited to share the news that we have been asked to collaborate with the **Proms Praise for Schools** giving a performance of - “**Lost & Found**” at St Georges’ Church Deal. This tells the story of The Parable of the Lost Son, (Luke 15 v11-24) in singing, music, story and performance. Noel Tredinnick; (a very eminent, worldwide, composer, music director and conductor) and the All Souls Orchestra of Musicians will travel from London to rehearse and accompany our choir. The concert will take place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2017; starting at 19:00hrs.

Mrs Spencer has already sent out letters to KS2 to enlist pupils for our school choir and promote participation in this event. Please support the school and give your child this once in a life time opportunity to take part.



**Save the date: Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2017; starting at 19:00hrs**, book tickets for all your family, it will be one of the most amazing events we have ever taken part in. I am sure you will be so proud of our children and school. Thank you.

### **New Staff Members**

Please welcome:-

Mrs Anglim as our new Early Year Teaching Assistant. Mrs Anglim brings many years of experience working in primary schools.

### **New Staff Members continued**

Mrs Hodgson – Many parents will know that Mrs Hodgson has trained our girls' football team and tennis players as well as running a very effective science after school club. She is now employed as a member of staff to assist with sports training, and pupil inclusion every lunch time and will continue her marvellous work at this school.

### **Pause for reflection:**

#### Prayer to Begin our School Year

God of wisdom and might,  
we praise you for the wonder of our being,  
for mind, body and spirit.  
Be with our children as they begin  
a new school year.  
Bless them and their teachers, staff and families.  
Give the strength and grace as their bodies grow;  
wisdom and knowledge to their minds  
as they search for understanding;  
and peace and zeal to their hearts.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

I am sure that we will have a fabulous year with many opportunities for the children to develop their own personalities, their zest for learning and interest in many different topics. Should you have any concerns please contact the school and talk these through with your child's class teacher, or Mrs Hogben our school inclusion manager. I hope that you can find me on the school gate most days and I am always willing to make an appointment to discuss and agree on solutions to any barriers or problems that sometimes crop up. We are all here to help and find the best path forward for families and our pupils.

With kind regards

Justine Brown

