



The Federation of Winklebury Infant and Junior Schools

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Newsletter no. 2

Dear Parents

A reminder - Sponsored Fun Run

Following the cancellation this week due to the weather, a reminder it is the sponsored run for all the children Monday 3rd October during school hours. I hope everyone's managed to get at least one sponsor to help us raise money for IT equipment at both schools.

Please remind your children they will need their P.E. kit and if your child does not have their kit they will not be able to take part. If you are having difficulty providing your child's kit please let us know as soon as possible. Your child will only be given a school P.E. kit if he/she has a genuine reason for forgetting to bring his/her own kit to school and usually has the kit in school.

A reminder - voluntary helpers in school

If you are interested in continuing, or joining us as a voluntary helper in school (either school) please come along to a meeting with me on **Thursday 29th September at 2.30pm in the infant school.** Please be aware:

- we will only be able to accept help from people who are able to commit to a regular weekly or perhaps monthly slot
- all voluntary helpers will have to undergo criminal record checks
- helpers for the Year R classes will not start until the spring term (January) when the children have had a full term to settle into school
- be prepared that you may not be able to help in your own child's class

The information above is designed to make sure that you are aware of our expectations and that you know these before coming to the meeting. I look forward to seeing some of you then but in the meantime, if you have any questions please contact me via the Federation Admin Office or pop in and see Mrs Robinson, our Finance and Personnel Manager.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Friday 30th September – 10.00am – infant school hall

Please be reminded we are once again supporting the Macmillan appeal and will be holding our coffee morning this week. All donations of cakes can be brought to school Thursday 29th September or Friday 30th by 9.00am. We look forward to sharing coffee and cake with you in support of this good cause.

Special 'fun lunch' Thursday 6th October

We will be having a special 'fun lunch' at both schools on **Thursday 6th October.** The reason we are doing this is that on that day, the number of school lunches we serve at the infant school will influence the money we are given for the universal free school meal service which operates for all children in the infant school. At the start of the year we are given a sum of money for the universal school meal offer based on a take up of over 87%. If we do not have the expected number of children taking up the free school meal offer on Census Day, Thursday 6th October, then money is taken away from our budget, which is something we don't want! **So please take up your infant child's entitlement to a free school meal on Thursday 6th October!**

The menu for the 'fun lunch' (in both schools) is as follows:

- * Pizza (green option) or southern coated chicken goujons (red option)
- * Potato wedges, baked beans, salad
- * Melting Moment biscuit

We have chosen to have the 'fun lunch' at both schools so the juniors don't feel left out! Thank you in advance for your support of our special 'fun lunch'.

Harvest

You are invited to join the children for their harvest assemblies on the following dates:

Infant school –Tuesday 11th October – 9.15am – for parents of children in Owl, Squirrel and Rabbit classes

Infant school –Wednesday 12th October – 9.15am – for parents of children in Badger, Hedgehog and Mouse classes

Junior school – Thursday 13th October – 9.15am – for parents of children in Years 5 and 6

Junior school – Friday 14th October – 9.15am – for parents of children in Years 3 and 4

We will provide a crèche for each assembly.

We look forward to welcoming you to school but please be reminded of the following:

* Taking photographs at school events will be allowed but only as stipulated by school staff on the day. Some of our children are not allowed to have their photograph taken in school events and therefore we have to abide by the requests of those children's parents. You will be allowed to take photographs but it may be that they have to be taken at a given time rather than all the way through the event.

* Under no circumstances may photographs taken at school events be published on social networking sites such as Facebook or other internet sites. If it is found that any parent or relative of a child has breached this directive then we will ensure the pictures are removed immediately. It is vital that as a school we do everything we can to ensure our children are safe and that includes internet safety.

* We would prefer that you leave younger children at home if there is the likelihood that they will interrupt the children's presentations, but if you bring them along we ask that you use our crèche facility (preferred option please) or take them out of the hall if they start to cause a disturbance.

Thank you for your support and co-operation.

Harvest collections

As we have done in previous years, we are inviting the children to bring in produce for our harvest displays to encourage them to think of others within the local community. We are having a '**Shoebox for Harvest' competition** again this year. We would like the children to decorate a shoebox and fill it with **non-perishable items such as cans and packets of foodstuffs** which will then be distributed, after our assemblies, to a community based project in Basingstoke called 'Basingstoke Foodbank'. This is a charity that helps individuals and families in crisis through the provision of emergency food supplies. A network of distributors consisting of health visitors, social workers and other community based support workers, refer people to the Foodbank centre using a food voucher. Each person will receive enough nutritionally balanced food for 3 days. I am sure you will agree this is a very worthwhile cause for us to be supporting – if you would like further details please visit www.basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk.

The child with the best decorated 'Shoebox for Harvest' (judged by one of our governors) will win a small prize and every child who takes part will be given a certificate to recognise his/her effort. The harvest shoeboxes need to be in school **by Monday 10th October** so that they can be displayed for the harvest assemblies. Please remember to remind your child to put his/her name and class on the bottom of the shoebox.

If you are unable to help your child fill a shoebox with produce but wish to send in an item or two, please do so and we will make up school shoeboxes of these items. Thank you in advance for your support.

Picking up from after school activities

Please can we ask you to be punctual when collecting your child from after school activities. We understand that sometimes there are exceptional circumstances for you being delayed, but some parents are regularly arriving late at 4.10/ 4.15pm and this can be very inconvenient for staff and club providers. Thank you for your co-operation.

On-going issues with payments online

Please accept our apologies to those of you still experiencing difficulties paying online. We know how frustrating this is and are trying our best to resolve the issues as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience.

Fly tipping

Unfortunately we continue to have problems with people who seem to think it is acceptable to throw their rubbish on to the school site where children can find it and our site team have to spend time clearing it up. If you are aware of anyone doing this, or see someone doing it, please inform the council, the police and us. Thank you.

What's been happening at the schools?

The regular 'slot' in the newsletters designed to keep you up-to-date!

*A very big thank you to the Four Lanes Trust for their donation of £500 towards the new benches on the field by the infant school. The charity would like me to publicise their contact details to encourage other groups who may wish to request support – www.fourlanetrust.org.uk

* The Federation choir are rehearsing ready for the Mayor's Annual Variety Show on 3rd October – I am very proud to report that two of our children (Ellie King and Sareena Rogers) have been successful in securing solo parts in the show – well done!

* Our two Junior Road Safety Officers – Clio Perry and Oliver Scully are spending a day undergoing training for their role, led by the Local Authority, this week

* I am pleased to announce our prefects for this year, as voted for by the children and staff, are:

Bethany Graham – Head Girl

Ben Lussenden – Head Boy

Liam Killoran

Rhiannon Mott

Portman Waite

Clio Perry

Ty Williams

Charlotte Varndell

Congratulations to you all and thank you to all the Year 6 children who put themselves forward and produced some inspiring presentations to capture people's votes.

Opportunities

We have the following information in the schools – if you would like a leaflet please pop in to collect one from the Federation Admin Office or ask us to send one home with your child:

*Basingstoke Town Football Club – recruiting for under 11 to 18 squads and under 7,8 and 9 age groups as well as the under 10s squad

Dates

Remaining inset days 2015-2016 when school is closed to the children:

* Monday 27th February 2017

* Tuesday 28th February 2017

* Friday 7th April 2017

The schools are closed for half term Monday 24th October to Friday 28th October inclusive

Yours sincerely

Mrs C.A.Clayton
Head of Federation

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ON REQUEST TO EITHER SCHOOL**