



## PARENTS NEWSLETTER JUNE 2016

### **Parent questionnaire: we need your suggestions and views.**

Every three years we refresh our school development plan to ensure that we are making the changes that continue to move our school forward. We are two years in and governors have been mapping our progress term by term. We are drafting the next school development plan and your views are key to that, as they were two years ago. A summary feedback of results was shared with you then and I will produce an initial summary again before the summer break this year.

Coming home next week along with your child's subject report is a hard copy questionnaire for you to complete and return to school.

Many thanks in anticipation. The more responses we get, the better informed we will be about how you want your school to run in the next three years.

### **Laughter Specialists**

As mentioned in my last newsletter The Laughter Specialists visit school each Friday. I have been made aware of a special fund raising event in memory of a child and if you would like to donate please visit <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/TeamJoelyBug>

### **Special events: 6<sup>th</sup> form enterprise evening/ internal fun day/ KS4 activity week**

Since my last email we have had several events all of which have gone well: 6<sup>th</sup> form held a BBQ and enterprise afternoon, pupils enjoyed the Variety fun day (thank you once again for your donations) and the key stage 4 activity week was a great success. As we move towards the end of the summer term there are more enrichment activities planned including of course **sports days** on 28 June (primary) and 29 June (secondary). I hope to see many of you there.

### **Summer hydro swim days**

I am pleased to announce that we will be holding 'hydro days' again this summer and I will send more details and a booking slip home separately before the end of term.

### **Reports, class and timetable arrangements**

You will receive your child's **subject report home next week** and that will be followed by **parents evening on 7 July**. Separate letters and booking slips will come home for parents' evening.

### **Just a quick summary of some of the timetable changes to be aware of:**

Many of you will know that each year we ask school council to choose the names for secondary school classes. This helps the students settle quickly into September and it is an exciting topic of real decision making for students. This year **council have chosen 'bridges' as the theme. This will affect KS3 and KS4 classes.** 6<sup>th</sup> form will remain as they are now.

A reminder from my last newsletter that Angus Shelton is moving this summer and so will be replaced by incoming teacher Emily Willis in KS4.

We also have one internal teacher change. Olga Bak (secondary department teacher) and Katie Black (part time primary teacher) will be swapping roles so that Olga is a full time class teacher for primary and Katie (whose initial experience was with older students) will join the secondary department. Both are talented and experienced special needs teachers.

Following an initial period of training and preparation, rebound therapy will become a timetabled therapy provision for those pupils who are likely to benefit most from September.

Our Teacch room base has proved a big success and as such our ICT room will be converted into a second Teacch room base over the holidays. This will enable more pupils to benefit. We have moved over to more mobile ICT devices for curriculum work.

We need to maximise further the use of our hydrotherapy pool for pupils with physical therapy needs. We will continue to offer all primary pupils one swim session per week throughout the year. This is so that emerging swimming skills can be developed. Secondary pupils who do not have hydrotherapy will have a rota term of swimming either at the Abbey Pool or at Granta. They will not swim all year through but will continue to have a whole term of swimming sessions over and above PE.

We are in discussion about college links. Individual transition visits will continue to be supported and the small animal course at COWA for 6<sup>th</sup> form students will continue. We are not currently timetabling routine KS4 or 6<sup>th</sup> form links to CRC.

### **Eye clinic news**

Does your child attend a specialist eye clinic? Some families have found that it is a tricky clinic to attend because of waiting times and venues. I am pleased to share with you that it is possible to make arrangements to be contactable by mobile (text) whilst you are on site so that you can walk around, get a drink etc and not miss your appointment. To know more please see contact details below:

Contacts for the eye clinic liaison officers:  
Hinchingsbrooke Vicky French ECL0 01480 416416 x3190  
Addenbrookes Antoinette ECL0 01223 216577