

Dear Parents and Carers,

Macmillan Coffee Afternoon



Last Friday our Year 6 children hosted their own 'World's Biggest Coffee Mornings' (in their case an afternoon!) on behalf of MacMillan Cancer Care. We had a special team of parents here to help set up the hall and carefully arrange the delicious goodies on the children's behalf. Just before 15:00pm our Year 6 children appeared to offer all hands on deck! The coffee afternoon was greatly received. Macmillan supporters turned up in their swarms; the hall was buzzing with mums, dads, grandparents, brothers, sisters, childminders and friends alike all enjoying a good cup of tea and a slice of cake. The children raised a staggering £257.33 for Macmillan and wanted to pass on their heartfelt thanks to all who came and supported their fundraising efforts. Particular thanks to Mrs Oubridge for organising, Mrs Floris (Amelie's mum), Mrs Crane (Ella's mum) and Mrs Williams (Aiden and Isla's mum) for helping set up the hall and to everyone who helped clear away afterwards.

October - Month of the Rosary

Thank you to Deacon Kevin who led the children in prayer at the first of our Rosary sessions on Tuesday. Deacon Kevin will be dropping in every Tuesday lunchtime throughout the month and would like as many children as possible to join him. He has asked that the children meet in the front reception area, and if they have their own set of Rosary beads, please bring them along - we have a limited collection in school. The sessions run from 12:45 until 13:00, we encourage children to come along.

Music For Schools Foundation

Yesterday morning children in Years 1 - 6 were treated to a special assembly from Alan Summers from Make Time for Music, an independent registered charity. Alan came in to demonstrate some brass and woodwind instruments to the children in the hope of sharing with children how fun and rewarding it can be learning to play an instrument. Laughter could be heard from the hall as Alan

showed off his knowledge of the instruments, combining comedy with his musical talents. All the children enjoyed the assembly and gave Alan a huge round of applause before he left.

Leaflets have gone home tonight in KS2 children's bags advertising Alan's return next week to demonstrate these instruments to parents in his enrolment evening. If your child is in Years 3-6 and is interested in starting brass or woodwind music lessons or if you have any questions about starting lessons, this would be the perfect opportunity to come along and see what Music for Schools Foundation can offer.

Alan returns on Monday 10th October for his parents information evening at 18:00pm in the school hall, hopefully see you there.

Harvest Mass

This morning we were joined by many parents, carers, family and friends to celebrate our Harvest Mass led by Deacon Kevin and Fr Josaphat. The hall was decorated with beautiful pictures made by the children in KS1 and all the children read and sang beautifully. We talked about the meaning of the Harvest and what God asks of us at Harvest time. God calls us to care for one another as we are all brothers and sisters. We are all part of the same global family. God asks us to love one another, to help each other when we are in need and to share what we have so that everyone has enough. On display in the hall, to represent all the children's generosity, were all the foodstuff that has been so kindly donated over the last few weeks. Thank you for your generous donations, all of these have been collected this morning by a member of St Augustine's Church congregation who will distribute them to those in need.

Warmer P.E. Kits!

It may still be bright and sunny outside but the weather has definitely turned colder. As much as possible we like to get the children outside doing P.E., particularly on a bright day. With this in mind will you please provide your child with some warmer clothing, such as jogging bottoms and jumpers to wear during P.E. lessons. P.E. Kits should be kept in school (except for washing) and not used for other clubs.

Parent/Teacher Consultations

A reminder that Parent Teacher Consultations are taking place on Tuesday 18th and Thursday 20th October, please see Diary Dates below for the specific timings of each of those dates. Our Inclusion Leader, Mrs Taylor will also be available on both evenings. **Sign up sheets will be in hall from Monday.**

Your PTA Needs You!

We wrote to you last week asking for a volunteer to chair the PTA. The PTA is a charitable body - it raised and distributed approximately £13,000 in the 2015/16 academic year. As a charitable body, it is legally required to be led by a committee, including the roles of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. **Without a Chair, the PTA cannot operate and there will be no events run until a Chair has been appointed.**

We still have not had any volunteers and are requesting, once more, that you consider the role, either individually or as part of a group. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Alex Green or contact the School Office for her contact details.

First Day at School Photos

You will remember that, a couple of weeks back, The Courier newspaper dropped in to photograph both our Reception classes for a 'First Day at School' edition. We have been notified that the photos

will feature in issues dated Friday 7th October and Friday 14th October. Don't forget to get your copies!

Head Lice in School

Another reminder that there are still cases of head lice in school. We are asking you ALL to please check your family's hair tonight with a detection comb and conditioner. If any lice are found please treat appropriately or consult a pharmacist for advice. Special shampoos are available but not suitable for everyone.

No school staff are allowed to check hair, so we really need your co-operation to beat this. Children with medium to long length hair must have it tied back for school. Good prevention is the key, so please check your child's hair regularly. For further information please go to <http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Head-lice>

Recruitment

We are looking to appoint a mid-day meals supervisor starting 31st October to support a pupil with special educational needs 1:1 over the mealtime period. Working 7.5 hours over five days, 1 hour 30 minutes per day 11.50am - 1.20pm, 38 weeks per year (term time only).

The position involves:

- being responsible for the named pupil over the mealtime period, including supervising play with peers, behaviour management, encouraging eating and supporting toilet training- changing clothes and personal care where necessary;
- helping prepare the hall for lunch;
- being part of the team that maintains the safety and wellbeing of all pupils during the mealtime period.

The person appointed needs to be enthusiastic, flexible and a good team player. If you would like to apply please visit www.kent-teach.com

The post is subject to an enhanced disclosure application to the Disclosure and Barring Service and ISA Registration, plus verification of the right to work in the UK.

Closing Date - Friday 14th October 2016 at 12 noon.

Interviews taking place in the afternoon of Thursday 20th October 2016.

KCC Advice to Parents

KCC have issued the following advice to parents who are choosing a sports club for their children:

It is the right of any parent or carer to check how well a sports club is run, for the sake of their child's safety and their own peace of mind. If you want to choose the right club for your child, here is some guidance and questions you could ask:

- Are staff and volunteers **appropriately qualified** and suitable to work with children?
- Does the organisation have a **child protection policy**?
- If you or your child has any worries, **who can you talk to**?
- Does the organisation have a written **code of behaviour/conduct**?
- What about **arrangements for away fixtures** and other events?
- What **training** has been provided for staff and volunteers?
- Does the club have a clear **health and safety** policy?
- Would they be able to **contact me** in an emergency?

A well-run club will welcome questions about their activities and policies. They will know they have a responsibility to give this kind of information to anyone who leaves a child in their care.

Sport England's Clubmark is a cross-sport accreditation scheme for community sports clubs. An accredited club is recognised as a safe, rewarding and fulfilling place for participants of all ages, as well as helping parents and carers know that they're choosing the right club for their young people.

If you are asked to host, work with, or promote a local club, or want to signpost parents to local clubs, Clubmark can be the first port of call for identifying their suitability.

If a club does not have Clubmark, the questions listed can still be used provide assurances.

Useful links: www.kentsport.org/safesport/ - www.kentsport.org/clubmark/

St Gregory's Multi Sports Camp

If your child is aged between 6 and 11 years of age and enjoys a range of sports such as football, tennis, netball, rounders, cricket, basketball, badminton, hockey and more, perhaps he/she would like to attend the Multi-Sports club at St Gregory's. The camp runs from 10am to 3pm on Tuesday 25th, Wednesday 26th and Thursday 27th October. The cost is £15 per day with a reduced price of £12.50 per child for two or more siblings. Children will need to bring with them a packed lunch, plenty of fluids and snacks for throughout the day and weather appropriate clothing. If you have any further questions or would like to book a place please contact Noel Bradbury directly on nbradbury@sgschool.org.uk. Forms are available from the office.

Diary Dates

Monday 10 th October	Music for Schools Meeting for Parents 18:00 to 19:00
Tuesday 13 th October	Kent Selection Test Results after 16:00
Monday 17 th October	Inset Day - no school for children
Tuesday 18 th October	Parent Teacher Consultations 16:00 - 18:30
Thursday 20 th October	Parent Teacher Consultation 16:30 - 19:00
Friday 21 st October	End of Term 1
Monday 31 st October	Start of Term 2
Tuesday 6 th December	KS1 Nativity Production to Parents 14:00
Wednesday 7 th December	KS1 Nativity Production to Parents 14:00
Wednesday 14 th December	EY Christmas Production to Parents 09:30
Wednesday 21 st December	KS2 Christmas Celebration 09:15

CAFOD prayer inspired by this week's Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Loving Lord, may we never fail to recognise your healing love. Help us to remember our blessings and fill our hearts with gratitude and thanksgiving. Amen.

Congratulations to our award winners:

Attendance Ted: 1 St Theresa 3/4 St John

Punctuality Pete: 2 St Bernadette 5/6 St Mark

WOW: 5/6 St Patrick

Mrs Warren