

The Cathedral School Newsletter

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16th September 2016

Autumn Term

Inside this issue:

[Head's Message](#)

[Letters sent out this week](#)

[Diary Dates](#)

Week 2 Menu Next Week

19.9.16 Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe performed by drama Company to KS2 children

21.9.16 Meet the Teacher, 6.30 pm
PTA AGM, 7.30 pm

22.9.16 Swimming for Classes 3,4,5 until **1.12.16**

25.09.16 Y5 Residential visit

28.9.16 Y5 children return

3.10.16 Winter uniform
Harvest Festival, 2pm at
The Cathedral

7.10.16 Flu vaccination

Y5 Kingswood presentation to
Parents. 9 am

15.10.16 PTA Dreamcatcher photos

18.10.16 Tempest Photographers

21.10.16 Non Pupil Day

24.10.16 Half term

08.11.16 Parent Consultations, 5-8

09.11.16 Parent Consultations, 4-7

26.11.16 Christmas Bazaar, 11-2pm

01.12.16 Final Swimming session
Barnardos Carol Concert at
Westminster Cathedral

16.12.16 FS Nativity to parents 4pm

19.12.16 Carol Service, Cathedral

21.12.16 Break up for Christmas

05.01.17 Return to school

10.2.17 Non Pupil Day

31.03.17 Break up for Easter

18.04.17 Return to school

01.05.17 Bank holiday

29.05.17 Half term

05.06.17 Non Pupil Day (except
year 6)
Year 6 pupils do to The Isle
of Wight

06.06.17 Return to school

Head's Message

The beginning of term is always an exciting time with new teachers and new classes. We aim to ensure everyone is aware of what will happen and can be confident by starting the year with 'Meet the Teacher'. Starting at 6.30pm on Wednesday (21st), there will be a brief introduction in the school hall when I will set out the expectations and ambitions for the year and introduce the teachers. Following this at about 6.50pm, parents are invited to the classrooms to indeed, 'Meet the Teacher', receive information and start the necessary dialogue which is the basis of our partnership, working together to help your child/children have a happy and successful year. Booklets are available from each year group and on the website if you are unable to attend.

The PTA will hold their AGM at 7.30pm after "Meet the Teacher". We hope as many of you can attend /remain as possible. The PTA have had another very successful year, improved by the matched funding parents have achieved for us. The funds the PTA raises for the school and the projects within school that they support are vital to the quality of provision for our children. With some of the current committee members coming to the end of their tenure, we will be looking for people to move into these important roles to maintain the standard that has been achieved.

Looking further ahead to Monday October 3rd, the whole school will attend our Harvest Service in the Cathedral at 2pm. The Cathedral is supporting Syrian refugees in camps by supplying food parcels and we are joining with them with the particular focus on the children.

The children have been identifying how we can provide educational materials for the children. You are welcome to support either or both strands of the Harvest Appeal. We will take our harvest gifts of dried goods to the Cathedral and hope to provide sealable clear basket bags containing paper, pens pencils, colouring books, picture books rulers etc. . By providing them in a clear bag the age appropriateness of the gifts will make allocation easier. Collection will start from Friday 30th September and we will keep our collection in the foyer.

Year 3 Children and Universal Free School Meals

If you have a child in Year 3 they will have been receiving Free School Meals in the past couple of years alongside all other KS1 children. This ended at the end of Year 2 so unfortunately, from this term onwards, payment must be made. The cost of school meals is £2.30 per day and payment is preferred via SCOPay where there is a minimum payment of £11.50.

Free School Meals

Free School Meal Applications are now available online. If you would like to enquire if you are eligible for Free School Meals, the website address is: www.essex.gov.uk/educationawards. Pupils in receipt of school meals, cannot be identified by others, but the process not only provides individual free school meals, it produces extra funding for the school to use to enhance education and opportunities for those children.

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The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe

All KS 2 children will be watching the play of The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe on Monday afternoon. If you haven't already done so, please forward a voluntary payment of £3.50 to school on Monday.

School Clubs

Our own school clubs will begin next week.

Absence from School

If your child is absent, please remember **to phone the School Office on the day your child is absent from school.** On their return it is important that your child brings in a letter to explain their absence.

Swimming - Classes 3, 4 and 5

Swimming sessions will begin next Thursday and letters were emailed home to parents last week. The cost for 10 lessons is £30 and payment is preferred via SCOPay. Cheques should be payable to 'The Cathedral School.'

Jobs in school

We are currently seeking a Kitchen Assistant and two daily Mid-day Assistants. The opportunity may exist for a role for one or more people working a minimum of three lunchtimes. Please see the adverts sent out on Scopay this week. Applications should be made electronically through the LA website www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk. The closing date for these posts is Monday next week.

Community News

Men2 Sing and New City Voices will perform in a Charity Concert for CHESS on Saturday 19th November, 7pm at Christ Church, New London Road. For more information and to book tickets www.chelmsfordchess.org/concert

Juice Kitchen

Have you visited the Juice Bar in the High Street? They are offering Cathedral School parents a 10% discount on all purchases.

Autumn Fayre

In aid of Chelmsford Cats Protection will take place at the Chapter House, Cathedral Hall, 10am -12pm

Letters sent out this week

Y3/4 Lego Club

Payment of School Meals for Y3 Children

PTA AGM

PTA Job Descriptions— Chair and Treasurer

Meet the Teacher and PTA AGM

Parents are invited to come and 'Meet the Teacher' next Wednesday at 6.30 pm, initially in the School Hall, before going into your child's class to discuss the curriculum with their teacher. Please note that parents of children in **Classes 1 and 2**, will not meet with their teachers on this occasion, but will have an opportunity to do so in October when they will be invited to a Curriculum Meeting. However, Reception parents **are** welcome to attend the 6.30 pm meeting to learn more about the school and have refreshments before attending the PTA Meeting.

This meeting will be followed by the PTA AGM at 7.30 pm and parents are warmly welcomed to come along and meet members of the PTA and learn more of the fundraising that they tirelessly work at to raise much needed funds for the children. An email was sent home this afternoon with further information, together with Job Descriptions and Nominations Forms for the Chair and Treasurer roles which will become vacant shortly.

Chelmsford Cathedral – Seeking new volunteers for their School Visits Programme

Every year over 50 schools are welcomed to Chelmsford Cathedral for an educational visit. The team are currently looking for new volunteers to join them, particularly anyone with teaching experience. There will be an induction

Colchester Zoo Visit for FS, Years 1 and 2

We are hoping to take the children from Foundation Stage, Years 1 and 2 on a Christmas school trip to Colchester zoo where they meet Father Christmas and enjoy a penguin encounter. If your child has a Gold Card please let Mrs Grover know

Safeguarding and Pick up of Children

If your child is picked up from school by someone else, please inform the school in writing. It will not be possible for anyone else to collect your child if we have not been previously advised, even if it is by another parent in school. Regardless of the arrangements during the last year, this routine should be confirmed at the beginning of each academic year.