

COMPTON ALL SAINTS' C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter Friday 8th September 2017

Hello everyone and welcome back to the new school year!

I hope you all had a happy and relaxing few weeks and that you're ready for the excitement and challenge that the next school year will bring. The children all seem to have settled back very quickly into their new year groups or classes and the classrooms have a happy and purposeful feel. It's just a shame that due to the autumnal weather we've only managed one day where they have been able to play on the field so far.



Firstly I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all the new families who have joined us. We are delighted that you are now part of our school community and look forward to working together in the months and years ahead.

We are also very happy to welcome four new members of staff to our team: Mrs Blachford and Mrs de Zoysa who are sharing the teaching of Falcons class, and Mrs Simmonds and Mrs Ford who are joining as lunchtime supervisors.

My apologies that this is such a long newsletter! There's always a lot of information to share at the beginning of term and it makes sense to try and do it all in one go.

MEET & GREET SESSIONS

These sessions are opportunities to meet with your children's teacher and hear about the routines and expectations of the class. All sessions start straight after school at 3.30pm and last 30 mins at the most. Those of you with children in Hedgehogs class have already had your session; the other classes' dates are as follows:

Ladybirds – Monday 11th September (for Year 1s only)

Foxes class – Friday 8th September or Tues 19th September

Falcons class – Monday 11th September

As this is the first newsletter of the academic year, I have included information that is most commonly requested in the early weeks plus reminders for both new and established families. Please do take the trouble to read and keep it for future reference – though it will be published on the school website as well.

Nits

We had a bad run of nits during the last academic year and I'm extremely keen to try and prevent that happening again. Please, please condition and comb through your child's head with a proper detection comb on a very regular basis. Also remember that wider members of a family (eg grandparents) can sometimes be a source of re-infection – everyone in contact with young children needs to condition and comb regularly. I would be very grateful if everyone could have a thorough check and comb this weekend so that we can be sure we're starting the term nit-free.

From Monday we shall have nit-removing products in school so that if you are contacted re treating your child you will be able to purchase them from us and save a trip to the pharmacy.

Please follow the link below for information from the school nursing team about nits:

<http://www.southernhealth.nhs.uk/health-and-wellbeing/childrens-health/-health-and-wellbeing-childrens-health-headlice-threadworms-and-ticks-/?headlice>

<http://www.chc.org/>

Walking to School

If you are happy for your child to walk to or from school on their own, please notify their class teacher in writing. Thank you.

Break time snacks Children in KS1 do not need to bring a morning playtime snack as fruit or vegetables are provided for them, free of charge, on a daily basis.

- KS2 children may bring in fruit (including dried fruit) or vegetables for their playtime snack.
- All children may bring in a snack of fruit or veg for afternoon playtimes if they wish. This can really help with that 'end of the day' dip!
- KS2 children can purchase a small range of snacks (raisins, plain bread rolls, fruit juice) at a cost of between 25p and 35p.

School Uniform

Smart and tidy uniform is a reflection of the high standards expected at Compton. A copy of the uniform policy has been attached with this newsletter so that you can check what's required.

Grey trousers and skirts can be purchased anywhere, but items with the school logo must be purchased via www.yourschooluniform.com. Once on the home page, click on the 'Find Your School' button and use the alphabetical list to find items for Compton.

We also have a supply of second-hand uniform that can be purchased through the Compton School Association (CSA). Please leave a note in the CSA box in the office if you would like to purchase some second hand uniform.

As well as indoor uniform, it is also important that children's PE kit is as stated and not a mishmash of different coloured and branded shorts and t-shirts. This looks very untidy when the children take part in sporting events or after school clubs. Children who have been selected to represent their school in a sports fixture will not be able to take part unless they are wearing the correct PE kit.

Please label all items. In particular, please can pupils in KS1 have labels with full names on that are clear for the children to read themselves? If you have purchased second-hand uniform, can you also ensure that your child's name is put on the label rather than leaving the name of the previous owner!

Jewellery is not permitted except for stud earrings.

Nail polish is not permitted.

Very decorative hair bands are not permitted.



Request from Miss Carter and Mrs Cooke: Please can children in Ladybirds and Hedgehogs classes only bring book bags into school, not rucksacks? Many thanks.

Absence from school

- If your child is absent from school you can notify the school quickly and easily via the school website www.comptonallsaints.co.uk. The link is on the home page. If no notice of absence is received the absences will be marked as unauthorised.
- If your child is absent for more than one day then you will need to send in an explanatory note upon their return. If we do not receive one of these, absences after the first notified day has to be marked as unauthorised.
- Please avoid making medical appointments during the school day and let us know in advance if they are a necessity.
- Please remember that penalty notices can still be served for unauthorised absences. Headteachers are not allowed to authorise absence during term time unless the circumstances are exceptional. Do contact me if you have any queries.
- We expect children to attend school unless they are properly poorly – eg they have a temperature, sickness or a diagnosed infectious condition such as impetigo. Being 'under the weather' or tired is not a good enough reason for absence. **Please see attached leaflet.**

Music lessons in school

Please remember that signing up for music lessons (which happened at the end of last term) is a commitment for the whole academic year. It is not possible to give up part of the way through the year, even though occasionally another child may want to take up the instrument in their place. This is because children are grouped according to their standard and progress and a new child may not be able to fit into the slot of one who wants to leave.



Car Parking

Please park safely and considerately - ie

- Not on the white 'no parking' lines;
- Not across people's driveways so they cannot get out;
- Facing the right way – ie towards Otterbourne Road.



We ask that people do not reverse in or out of Carmens Lane (or other people's driveways) and that instead they go up to the top of Compton Street to turn around. It's a nuisance I know, but we cannot do anything about the fact that we have limited space. We have to act in the best interests of everyone rather than just ourselves and allow some extra time for walking from a little further up the road. Thank you.

Helping in School

We are hugely grateful to all those parents and carers that give up time to help in school. It really helps us to provide that little bit more support to children and teachers and helps to develop the family feel of the school.

Letters inviting people to come in and volunteer to help with reading and other tasks will be sent out shortly. We really appreciate any time you can give and I will hold a briefing on 15th September at 9am to go through routines and expectations and answer any questions. We shall be continuing our policy of parents/carers being able to help with their child's class but generally not in the same room as their child, which seems to have worked very well over the last couple of years.

Please note that even if you have been volunteering for years, you have to attend the induction session to go through the safeguarding and health and safety procedures. Thank you.



Free School Meals

Please do check online to see if you are eligible for free school meals as this could have a very positive impact on the school's budget. If your child is eligible the school will receive in excess of £1000 to fund additional resources. If you are in receipt of certain benefits you may qualify and it doesn't take a moment to find out.

Go to the Hantsweb page <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/caterers> and click on the 'Free Meals: Schools and Colleges' tab on the left hand side to find out.

(Please note that this is separate from the universal free lunches that all infant children are now eligible to have, regardless of family circumstances.)

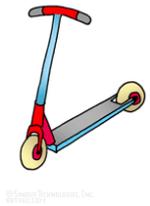
Supervision along Compton Street/Otterbourne Road

Please can you make sure your children stay close to you when they are walking down Compton Street and Otterbourne Road? I know that it's difficult because children like to run ahead, but there were some close shaves last year and an accident would be dreadful. I have already had a phone call from a local resident who had one of those 'heart in the mouth' moments whilst driving down Otterbourne Road, when three boys were jostling around on the pavement and stepped briefly into the road. Many thanks.

Play equipment, scooters etc

Last term we trialed some restriction of scooter-use on the playground to improve safety and also ensure that after school sports clubs can start promptly. This worked very well and so will remain in place for this academic year.

- Children must not cycle or skateboard in the school playground.
- In the mornings, children can only scooter across the playground to the scooter shed.
- After school, children can scooter sensibly on the playground on the following days: Monday, Wednesday, Friday (as long as under parental supervision)
- Children can use the play equipment on the field on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays if they are supervised by a parent or carer who is down on the field with them.
- Please remember that children are not allowed to play ball games before or after school either on the playground or on the field.



Toy cars needed

Mrs Cooke could do some more toy cars for her classroom. If anyone has one or two that they would be willing to donate, we would be very grateful. Many thanks.

Celebration Assembly

Our first celebration assembly of the year will be held on Friday 15th September at 3pm. These assemblies generally happen every week except for the first week back after a holiday, or if there is a clash for staff with another event. Please note that the new Year R children will not be joining this assembly until after half term to give them time to get used to the routines of school (and sitting still!)



A list of dates was issued earlier this week; please note that the children will finish at 1.15pm at the end of the Autumn term and Summer term.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend,

Very best wishes

Allison Diver