



PARENTS NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2015

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to all the children following half term. I hope you all had a happy and peaceful week.

Parentmail

You will be able to receive newsletters and other messages via Parentmail to your mobile phone and/or email address by logging on to Parentmail via a message you should have received recently. If you have not, or you have not provided either of these contact details to school please let Ann in the office know.

Dates for diaries this half term are:

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 12 th November | Parents Evening |
| 21 st November | Winter Fayre |
| 9 th December | Cooking Club |
| 15 th December (am) | Secondary Christmas Performance |
| 16 th December (pm) | Primary Nativity |
| 17 th December | Christmas Lunch + Carols (PM) |
| 18 th December | 6 th Form Christmas Lunch |

Hydrotherapy pool water fouling regulations

This is just a polite reminder that any child who has been unwell with an upset stomach and diarrhoea should not swim for 14 days. This is part of usual public pool regulations and will also help to minimise pool closures for cleaning. Thank you for your understanding.

Changes to therapy provision from January 2016

As part of our commitment to continually assess our provision to make sure that we meet the widest range of pupil need as often as possible, the school management team have been discussing our range of therapy provisions.

Currently we offer hydrotherapy, music therapy and riding for the disabled. Over the last few years the numbers of pupils who are able to benefit from riding have dwindled and sessions are subject to frequent cancellations for weather, volunteer availability and our own staffing and transport pressures. This leads to sudden disappointment and disruption to pupils and we think we can improve that situation.

As a result we have decided to take a break from riding from January 2016 and instead to offer 'rebound therapy' which is trampoline based and for which a number of key staff in school will be trained this half term. We believe that we will be able to enrich more pupils' therapy experiences by offering this therapy in house and also to meet the needs of a wider range of pupils. We will continue to offer hydrotherapy and music therapy. Invitations to

pupils to take part in rebound therapy will be sent home individually in the early New Year and more details about it will be sent at that time.

School Council student elections

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been voted onto school council by their fellow students:

Fitzwilliam - Matthew & Shane
Homerton - Merissa & Thomas
Pembroke - Toby & Jessica
Darwin - Leon & Jamie C
Eagle - Lewis & Willow
Challenger - Jason & Jordan D
Discovery - Cameron & Gabby
Apollo - Andrew & Tobie T
Voyager - Blair & Ashvin
Year 6 - Katy & Omar

Solar power at Granta!

Solar PV and solar thermal electricity was switched on at Granta on 15th October 2015. In the first 6 days of operation we have generated enough electricity to make over 14,000 cups of tea! The solar PV will generate electricity to power the items such as lighting and IT whereas the solar thermal will generate heat to warm our pool.

As well as these exciting steps Granta has taken to save energy, we have also changed a lot of our lighting to LED lamps. These are producing a good quality of light at half the cost of the original lamps.

These are just some of the ways that Granta School is helping to improve the environment and reduce our carbon emissions for the generations to follow.

And finally ...

Fledglings are a charity based brochure which helps families source helpful specialist items which can then be purchased. They are having an open event you may be interested in: Thursday 12th November drop in any time between 10am and 3pm. Easy parking. Saffron Walden Golf club, Windmill Hill, Saffron Walden CB10 1BX. You can visit them on line at www.fledglings.org.uk

Lucie Calow