

# Newsletter 10th January 2020



We are all 'wonderfully made' and loved by Him just as we are.

## What is coming up ...

- Tuesday 14th Jan – F2 trip to World of Wonder
- Thursday 16th Jan – EYFS, Y1 and Y2 'school dinner taster day'
- Friday 17th Jan – Y1 visit to Hull Museum Quarter
- Monday 27th Jan – Full Governing Body Meeting 4pm
- Tuesday 28th Jan – Y5 workshops at Malet Lambert (more info to follow)
- Monday 10th Feb – Foundation Values Committee Meeting 4pm
- Wednesday 12th Feb – Y3 visit to Magna
- Thursday 13th Feb – Y4 Violin performance to parents (more info below)
- Friday 14th Feb – Last day of half term (finish at normal time of 3pm)
- Monday 24th Feb – Half term starts (usual times of opening)
- Thursday 5th Mar – World Book Day (more info nearer the time)
- Friday 6th Mar – School and Nursery closed for Teacher Training Day
- Monday 9th Mar – Full Governing Body Meeting 4pm
- Friday 3rd Apr – Last day of half term (finish at normal time of 3pm)

## Message from the Immunisation Team

It's not too late to have your child vaccinated against the flu. If your child has not already received the vaccine please contact the Immunisation Team on 0333 358 3397 Option 7, Option 2 to arrange.

## **Contact Details**

Please do not forget to let us know about any contact details or other circumstances that may have changed recently. This is especially important with mobile phone numbers as people might have been given a new phone as a Christmas present and also have new numbers too! This includes people who are family members other than parents or family friends who are on the emergency contact list for your child or children.

## **Exciting new links for our school**

We have started working with the British Council on an exciting programme called Connecting Classrooms. As part of this programme we will be collaborating with a school in another country to allow our pupils to explore global themes with their international peers to create positive change in their communities.

We are very excited that our link school is Obez Memorial Primary School in Freetown which is the capital city of Sierra Leone in West Africa. Over the next few weeks and months you will hear more about this great new partnership. The children will learn more about this next week so they might be telling you all about it then!

## **Hedge Planting**

Some of you may have noticed that just before the Christmas holiday we were planting on the school field. Thank you to the parents and volunteers that came in to help – it was a big job (420 saplings!) but we managed it because of the additional support. The trees were donated by the Woodland Trust and will help create shade and screening as well as interesting new micro-habitats that we can use in our learning.

## **Christmas Decorations**

Thank you to all of the families that donated Christmas decorations to the school. It was much appreciated and really did help brighten up all areas of the school.

## **Taster Day**

In an effort to increase the number of children eating a free hot meal we are having a “try it and see” day on Thursday 16th January. We will be serving one of the children’s favourite meals – a carvery with roast meat or quorn, mashed potato and vegetables, followed by a variety of chocolate puddings. If your child is in the Foundation Stage, Year 1 or Year 2 and usually has a packed lunch we would like to offer them a free hot meal with the option of eating their packed lunch instead if they don’t like it.

If you do not want your child to receive a free school hot meal then please let a member of the admin team know.

## **School Meals**

Can we please remind parents and carers that school meal bookings need to be made by the 20th of the month before they are due to be taken (for example, you will need to book by the 20th of January for meals to be taken in February.) At the moment we are still having lots of children staying school meals that haven’t been booked in which makes ordering the correct amount of food very difficult.

Our school values are: Trust, Peace and Friendship.

## **Response to Parental Questionnaire from Mrs Devaney**

In the autumn questionnaire a couple of people asked if the school could support working parents more. With this in mind we are looking at Breakfast Club hours to see if we can make it open earlier as this would help many parents get to work on time. Thank you to everyone who has completed the questionnaire that was sent out on ParentHub earlier in the week – it has helped us already. The link will stay open until next Friday when we will close it and look at the responses given. From this we can make plans based on the information from parents and consult with governors about possible changes if they are needed.

One parent has asked why we charge for our Breakfast Club when some other schools provide one for free. Without knowing the other school budgets it is tricky to say but it is possibly based on school funding. If a school has a high number of free school meal applications then they can apply for further grants to then provide things like Breakfast Club for free. At Alderman Cogan's we do not have enough children in receipt of free school meals for us to be able to apply for these grants. If more people who are eligible applied and were awarded a free school meal then we would be able to apply and if we were successful the Breakfast Club would become free. We currently subsidise the price to keep it as low as possible and I am aware that other schools charge considerable more so we are probably in the middle price range!

Charging for Breakfast Club is not ideal and in the long term I would like this to stop so we can better support families but at the moment it is the only way we can make it financially viable to run.

Once we have a full picture of what parents would find most beneficial in our Breakfast Club I will let you know.

Thank you for your support and help with this matter.

**Mrs Devaney**