



Newsletter 3 14/09/18

## OUR FOCUS VALUE THIS TERM IS KINDNESS.

### Congratulations! SUPERSTARS of the week:

Well done to this week's 'Rivington Remarkables'  
– **Tobey Charnock, Alice Whitwood, Aimee- Rose Hope, Jack McLaughlin, Erin Freeman, Theo Orgill and Niamh McColl.**

Thank you to everyone who attended our 'Get Together'- it was wonderful to share the children's achievements with you!

**Harvest Festival:** Harvest Festival will take place in Church on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at 9:30am in Rivington Church.** We would like to invite parents/carers and members of the school community to celebrate Harvest with us in Church. Each class will be sharing a short presentation, which may be a song, poem or reading.

We would be very grateful for any donations of non-perishable items **to brought to school on the day** (in a plastic bag) to support the **Winter Watch** food bank – please see items request in an attached list. We hope you can join us in our celebrations and know the children will really enjoy seeing you there.

### **School parking and speeding:**

Can you please take note of the separate letter addressing these two extremely concerning issues.

### **Funds for School Building Improvements:**

The floor, electrics and heating work in the two ground floor classrooms are being funded through LCC condition led funding. School also have a few years of capital which we are using to support re-decoration of these two rooms and to re-fit the Y1/2 toilets. In short, this is a very expensive project. Unfortunately, we are still short in a few areas so we are hoping that our wonderful families could help support school in even the tiniest way not only to support school improvement but to also help with the funding of:

- New slats for the blinds in Y3/4;
- A new rug for Y1/2;
- A free-standing cupboard for Y1/2;
- New flooring for EYFS;
- A handful of replacement chairs for both rooms.

In order to help support this we were going to complete a Jim-Jam Jog but looking at the space we have (very little) and the logistics of the field (especially with the change of weather) we have decided to move this to later in the year.

In the meantime, we are sending home a tube of Smarties (a little treat – in moderation!) so that the children can complete the 'Smartie Challenge'! Even the smallest donation will make a huge difference! Further details will follow!

School has a clearly defined development plan and much of the work around this utilises the skills, knowledge and abilities we have around us – often pooling resources and training with other schools to ensure value for money. Beyond this and to further support this we always want to aim for the best we can and know that this sometimes may need some financial commitment. With our financial forward planning, fundraising/grant applications this year we will be looking to aim for:

- Further laptops and iPads for KSI;
- A re-fit of the top kitchen;
- Access new outdoor provision for EYFS and KSI;



- A handwriting scheme;
- Clicker writing programme to be used on the laptops/IPads;
- Intervention training for reading and writing;
- Materials for the Art and RE curriculum;
- A re-decoration of Y5/6 and the stairs/entrance way.

### **PTA Funds:**

Can I once again thank the entire PTA and all of you who have supported an event, grant application or crowd funding request. Over the last year School Development has benefitted from:

- £2000 chemistry grant;
- 12x new laptops;
- £1000 for a maths scheme and resources;
- £1500 for history/geography resources;
- £1500 writing project for KS2 – 3 staff trained for a full year.
- £500 for the Faith Service Level Agreement (SLA);
- £600 for storage in EYFS;
- £500 for 'Mathletics' computer based homework – all year groups;
- £500 pounds for emotional literacy training.

Thank you to you all doesn't seem to cover it – you make such a difference!

### **Holiday Leave:**

Please note our policy on the Leave of Absence. In line with Government instructions, we can no longer authorise Holiday Leave as a matter of course. Government are placing great pressure on schools not to authorise holidays during term times. Both myself and the governors do want to work with parents. We will look at holiday requests which fall into exceptional circumstances and where attendance is above 97.5%. Please read the attendance policy on the website before submitting an application.

The 2019-20 holiday pattern will be available shortly.

### **Sickness and hair:**

If your child is sick or has had diarrhoea please do not send them back to school **for 48 hours** after symptoms have passed.

Your child's hair should be of a natural colour no shorter than a number 2 and contain no steps or lines – sorry! Remember when you chose Rivington you chose our rules as well – we embrace them, we are proud of them – please keep them.

Please do not let your child come to school wearing nail varnish, anything other than stud earrings or trainers.

If you require a new tie these are now available in the school office.

### **The School Grounds:**

I am sure you have all noticed the improvements taking place in our school grounds which had been a little neglected. Many thanks are to be extended to Mr. Dagnall who has put so much hard work into clearing and cutting the trees alongside keeping our grass short. He has done an amazing job and we are extremely grateful – Mr. Dagnall has often given up his weekends (with a young family) to complete this work. A number of LCC contractors and experts have commented on the high standard of Mr. Dagnall's work.

Mr. Phil Heaton will also be supporting as our School Gardener whilst Mr. Valentine and Mr. Halliwell will continue to provide wonderful site maintenance!

Many thanks to you all!

**Y6 RESIDENTIAL MEETING: DUE TO UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES THE Y6 RESIDENTIAL MEETING WILL NOW TAKE PLACE AT 8AM AND 6PM ON TUESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018. SORRY FOR ANY INCONVIENCE.**

**Macmillan Coffee Morning:**

Y5/6 will be hosting a coffee morning on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 9:30am for this vital and extremely worthwhile charity. All welcome!

**Planners:**

Please can you ensure that you have **read and signed the home-school agreement and e-safety agreement** in the front of the school planners. There is also a section for you to read and sign with your child – all this goes towards strengthening and sharing our school's values and ethos. Many thanks!

**Open Day:**

**Our first Open Day for new prospective parents is Wednesday October 10<sup>th</sup> at 10am until 11am and 1:30pm until 2:30pm. Please contact school if you would like to attend. We look forward to meeting you.**

**School Uniform:**

Please can we remind you to label all uniform and PE kits. Please can you make sure children have PE kits in school ready for lessons. All children must wear black pumps or suitable trainers for P.E.

**PTFA Meeting:** The AGM for the PTA will take place at 6:30pm on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September at the Bay Horse. All welcome.

**Primary Admission Information for 2018:** Admissions for Reception opened on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September. The closing date for Primary School Admissions is Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018. For information about our admissions criteria please visit the school website. **Please note:** Last year there was a change to our pre-school criteria/points. This has had to be made due to direction from LCC Admissions. Please check if you are applying this year.

**School Admissions- Secondary** - Secondary applications can be made on line and you should clearly state 3 preferences for your child. If you are applying to a church school there is a supplementary form which needs to be completed. **A reminder that the closing date for Secondary School Admissions is the 31st October 2017.**

**High School Open Days** –Parents of pupils in Years 6 or 5 may wish to attend open evenings being held in our local high schools. St Michael's Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September from 5.30pm to 8.00pm, Parklands Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September from 5.15pm to 8.15pm, Southlands Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September from 5.30pm and Albany Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September from 5.00pm to 7.00pm.

**Suggestion Box** – We now have a suggestion box in the reception area just outside the school office. We welcome your suggestions and comments.

**Clubs and Activities:**

If you would like your child to learn to play the piano, flute, guitar or ukulele please see Mrs Hitchen in the office.

**Dropping Off and Picking Up From School:** The road outside of school is obviously very busy at the start and end of the day. It has been brought to my attention that parents are still picking up and dropping off one the yellow zig-zag lines. These lines are marked to ensure the safety of our children. **In the interest of the safety of our children** and all pedestrians under **no circumstances** are vehicles to be parked on the zigzag lines. This is dangerous and could cause an accident. Thank you for your understanding.

**Free School Meals :** All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 automatically qualify for Universal free school meals. However children in the infants and the juniors may qualify for free school meals because you are in receipt of certain benefits, in which case you need to register your eligibility. If you are eligible your



child could qualify for Pupil Premium funding from the Government which will come into school to improve pupil attainment or provide additional opportunities. If you require further information please do not hesitate to contact the office.

**Parent Pay:** Please can you ensure that parent pay accounts are up-to-date.

**Adult Helpers:** Do you have a hidden talent that we can utilize in school or would like to offer a 'helping hand' then keep a look out for our parental help register to be sent out shortly.

Thank you to all parents, carers and families for your continued support.

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs. Annette

