

Wentworth Primary School
Newsletter No. 3 – 31st October 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome back to Term 2, I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable half term.

Harvest

Thank you all for your generosity in donating so many goods for our Harvest display. These were gratefully received by the Dartford Churches Foodbank who will distribute the food within our local community.

Open Evening

I look forward to seeing you at our forthcoming open evenings on Wednesday 14th November between 3.30pm-6.00pm and Thursday 15th November between 5.00pm-7.30pm. Please log onto wentworth.parentseveningsystem.co.uk to book your time slots. Already 80% of parents have booked online so to avoid disappointment, please ensure you book your appointment times as soon as possible.

How to Support Your Child's Reading

There will be two parent meetings on **Tuesday 6th November at 3.30pm**. Parents of children in Foundation Stage and Year 1 are invited to attend a talk on phonics and early reading in the Key Stage 1 hall, while parents of children in Years 2 -6 are invited to attend a talk on how to develop reading skills and the comprehension of texts in the Key Stage 2 hall. I am sure you will find these talks really useful.

SEND Award

We have enrolled with Optimus Education to gain the SEND Award in recognition of the support given to our pupils. The award will take approximately one year to complete and the school have to evidence a whole range of key performance indicators and objectives related to the SEND Code of Practice. Mrs Reilly has set up a working party including governors, senior leaders, teaching staff, support staff, parents and pupils. There will be opportunities for everyone to contribute if they so desire. If you wish to find out more, please contact Mrs Reilly on tracey.reilly@wentworth.kent.sch.uk. We will keep you informed of how we progress towards this award.

Children in Need

We will be supporting the BBC Children in Need appeal on Friday 16th November. Children are welcome to come to school in non-school uniform for payment of £1.00 which will be donated to the charity.

Can you help?

I recently wrote to you asking if you were able to offer voluntary support for an afternoon(s) on a regular basis. This is to provide some additional help to classes during their topic lessons where a good deal of experiential learning is taking place. If you can offer such support and are willing to be subject to a DBS check, can you please email the office and inform them of the days you are available. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

PTA Christmas Cards

The PTA has organised a 'design a Christmas card' as a Christmas fundraising activity. This week, the children will be making a Christmas card design which can be turned into cards available for purchase. More information will be forwarded to you by the PTA.

Remembrance Service and unveiling of our World War I Tank

Thank you to everyone who donated their plastic bottle tops. Mr Ketley has now completed the side aspect of our WW1 tank which will be erected parallel to the trench to commemorate the centenary of the end of the First World War. The plastic bottle tops form the rivets on the structure, each having the initials of a child in the school. Mr Ketley is producing a map to show where each child's rivet is placed. On the morning of Friday 9th November, each class will visit the tank memorial and place individual poppies or a class wreath beside it. We are hoping to attract the interest of the media for the event, following on from our appearance on the BBC news after the opening of the trench in 2014.

Parking

Having been back at school for one day following the half term, I have already received two justified complaints regarding parking from our neighbours. These complaints are regarding double parking across the road outside the James Road entrance and a neighbour's driveway being blocked by inconsiderate parking, leaving them unable to drive their own children to secondary school. Can I, once again, ask all our parents who drive children to school to show due courtesy and consideration to our neighbours.

Football

Congratulations to our boys' football team who won 8 – 2 against Dartford Primary on 11th October. They have a further match on 1st November and our girls play on 8th November.

Year 6 – Secondary Common Application Forms

Can I remind parents of Year 6 children to please forward a copy of their secondary common application form. This way we can cross reference to ensure that all children have made an application.

Admissions for Reception children starting September 2019

If you have a child who was born between 1.9.2014 and 31.8.2015 it is now time to start looking for Primary School places for starting school in September 2019. Please ensure that you make your application online via your home authority (who do you pay your Council Tax to – Bexley or Dartford?). Kent Admissions site goes live from Monday 5th November 2018. If you will have a younger sibling starting school, would you please let the office know so we can keep a count of our sibling numbers. Applications close on Tuesday 15th January 2019. If you wish, please contact the school office to book onto one of our tour dates in November.

School Photos

Your child should today bring home a proof copy of the recent Kittle Photographs. Please follow any instructions on the proof card and either order direct with Kittle online, or fully complete the proof card with your child's name, class and include correct payment (no change can be given) and return it to the office no later than 13th November.