



The children have made a great start to the year and are working really hard. It has been lovely to see how the new reception children have settled in - thank you for all your support at home. Thanks also to all the children who are coming into school on their own in the mornings - please keep encouraging this to happen as it makes the start to the day much calmer for everyone. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend welcome meetings and the volunteers meeting. We have lots more to look forward to in school before the half term holiday.

MACMILLAN COFFEE EVENT - You are invited to attend this year's Macmillan Coffee event at **College House Primary School in the hall** at 2.15 - 3.15 pm on 30 September 2016.

The World's Biggest Coffee Morning is Macmillan's biggest fundraising event for people facing cancer. People all over the UK will be hosting their own Coffee Mornings and donations on the day are made to Macmillan. Last year alone £25 million was raised and this year the aim is to raise even more.

Loads of lovely cakes and drinks will be available and you can make a donation to raise money for Cancer research. Please come if you can and help us to eat all the cakes and raise lots of money!



UNIVERSAL FREE SCHOOL MEALS It has been great to see so many children staying for a school meal, especially the reception children - we like to encourage every child in school to take advantage of a free hot meal! We are having a 'taster day' so that children who normally stay for a packed lunch can try a school dinner, therefore we are asking that **ALL** children stay for a school meal on **Thursday 6 October 2016**. If this causes a problem for you please call in at the office. (We will also text a reminder to you all the day before).

The school meal on this day will be:
Fish & Chips, Peas & Sweetcorn, Tomato Ketchup
Raspberry Ripple Ice Cream Cake

PLEASE DO NOT FORGET TO APPLY FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS IF YOU THINK YOU MAY BE ENTITLED **DUE TO YOUR INCOME**, AS THIS WILL AFFECT OUR BUDGET AND WILL MEAN YOU QUALIFY FOR FREE SCHOOL TRIPS AND OTHER SUPPORT WITH SCHOOL EVENTS ETC. Please call into the school office if you want any further information.

PHONICS MEETING FOR ALL RECEPTION PARENTS - All reception parents/carers are welcome to join us at 9.00 am on Friday 30 September 2016 in the School Hall. This session will introduce you to the phonics method of teaching reading that we use in school and help you to support your child when sharing books together at home. If you cannot attend information will be available following the meeting, either on the school website or paper copies in the school entrance.

PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING You may be aware from press coverage that schools who have children attending that have been adopted from care from January 1st, 2006 and onwards in the UK, will be eligible for Pupil Premium Funding. This funding is put into the school budget to enable the school to achieve the best outcomes for your children. Children who left care under a Residence Order on or after 14 October 1991, and those that left care under a Special Guardianship Order on or after December 30th 2005 are also eligible. You may already have informed the school that your child is adopted, but, if you have not - and of course you are fully entitled not to do so - you may wish to consider whether you would now like to do so since additional support will be possible. This may be in the form of training on attachment issues for teachers and support staff, tailored support in certain circumstances, or additional whole class interventions that would not be possible without this funding.

To benefit from Pupil Premium, please contact the school as soon as possible as the school must have this information for the census. Only if your child is recorded as being adopted and eligible or fulfils the other criteria regarding Residential Orders or Special Guardianship Orders, will the funding be given in April for the following calendar year.

We understand this is a sensitive issue and assure you we will be discreet and treat the information sensitively. If you do not wish us to do so, we will not take a copy of the adoption order; merely record the viewing of it. This will be done confidentially. If you are happy to advise us that your child is adopted please contact Mrs Colton in the main school office to arrange a time to come in with the Adoption Certificate. **If you have already informed us you do not need to let us know again.**

HARVEST FESTIVAL - We will be holding a small celebration for Harvest on Friday 14 October 2016, we are hoping to hold this jointly with College House Primary School in their hall. It will be for children and staff only due to a lack of space. As part of our Harvest Celebration, we would be very grateful if you could send in any donations of tins and fresh produce on the morning of Friday 14 October, which we will then donate to a local women's refuge and a local food bank to support families in difficulty. Thank you for your support.

SAFETY ON THE PLAYGROUND - Can I remind everyone that the children should not be riding their bikes or scooters on the playground at the start and end of the school day. We had a minor accident during the first week of term when a child collided with a parent and because we have so many younger siblings on the playground we need to make sure everyone is safe. Thank you.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION Please remember to check the website for the latest curriculum newsletters (see Class Pages). Don't forget to read regularly and practice your child's spellings as this is vital to ensure that your child achieves well in school.

VACANCY FOR PART-TIME FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR - Please find attached details of a vacancy at Christchurch Hall Pre- school, obviously if you are interested please contact them direct.

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY - I would like to remind parents about school attendance and the implications of taking your child out of school for a holiday during term time. Information from the Education Welfare Service shows that a two week absence from school means that your child will miss up to 50 hours of learning, which teachers are unable to repeat. Research suggests that just 17 days of absence from school could lead to a drop in GCSE grades at secondary level. The law has changed with regard to term time holidays. We are no longer allowed to authorise any holiday requests in term time unless in exceptional circumstances. A written application for any absences needs to be handed in for approval. Taking a holiday in term time could result in court action and a possible fine.

Information from the Education Welfare Service about how school attendance can affect your child's future progress:-

Above 97%	Above 97%. Less than 6 days absence a year: Excellent attendance! Pupils with this attendance should achieve the best grades they can, leading to the best possible start in their secondary education.
95%	95%. Less than 10 days absence in a year: Pupils with this attendance are likely to achieve their target grades and will be well prepared for starting secondary education.
90%	90%. 19 days absence over the year: Pupils with this attendance are missing a month of school per year and may fall behind in Maths and Literacy; it will be difficult for them to achieve their best.
85%	85%. 29 days absence in a year: These pupils are missing 6 weeks of school a year, it will be very difficult for them to keep up and achieve their best.
80%	80%. Pupils with this attendance are missing a day for every week of school. It will be almost impossible to keep up with work. Parents of pupils with this level of attendance could be issued with a Penalty Notice.

If you wish to discuss any issues regarding your child's attendance please contact the class teacher in the first instance. It is also vital that your child is at school on time. The doors open at 8.50am and the children should be in class ready to learn by 9am. In the older classes the children will often come in to do some work e.g. spellings, number problems, etc. Please also ensure that your child is picked up on time (3.20pm).

PARENTS FUND RAISING GROUP As you may be aware one of our parents, Catherine Stacey is now leading our Parents Fund Raising Group and Catherine would like to welcome as many parents/carers as possible to join the group and support the school with fund raising. The first two meetings of this academic year have been arranged with one being held in the evening at **7.30 pm on Thursday 6 October 2016 in the Beekeeper Pub** and one at **2.30 pm on Friday 7 October in the staffroom**. We hope by offering two different times it may help to encourage more of you attend as we appreciate it is not always easy for parents to attend events in the daytime. We would particularly like to encourage any of our new parents to attend and see if you can help in any way (it does not matter how small). At the meetings Catherine will give an overview of planned events (in particular arrangements for this year's Christmas Fayre) for the year and will be happy to discuss any new ideas for fundraising you may have. Younger siblings are welcome to attend with you at the daytime meeting with refreshments also available.

The group have already booked the first School Disco which is to be held on Thursday 13 October in the school hall and the details are as follows:

5.00 pm - 5.45 pm - Reception

6.00 pm - 6.45 pm - Year 1/Year 2

Entry through main entrance - pay on the door - £2.00 entrance fee (which includes a bag of sweets and drink). The children will not need any more money. Exit through hall doors. Could parents please collect children promptly at the end of each session and let us know if you do NOT wish your child to have orange juice.

We also wish to remind parents of an easy way of helping school raise funds by using a website called 'Giving Machine'. This is a non profit social enterprise whose sole aim is to raise money for UK schools and charities. Every year, your favourite online shops pay millions in sales commissions to websites who drive shoppers to them. By shopping via www.thegivingmachine.co.uk you can ensure that any commission paid on your purchase is donated to our school and this includes stores such as Amazon, Ebay, M & S, NEXT, Tesco, Sainsbury and John Lewis taking part.

You can join to become a Giver by visiting www.thegivingmachine.co.uk - entering your name, email address and postcode and selecting our school as your chosen beneficiary. Then every time you shop online, logon to the Giving Machine before you shop and this generates free cash donations with every purchase you make. **It does not cost you any additional money** and you do not have to make a special purchase to qualify. We use it every time we buy anything for school from sites such as Amazon. You will receive emails from the Giving Machine thanking you for your support and letting you know when the school receives a payment.

Apart from helping your child's school for free, the benefits include exclusive special offers from the online retailers and access to free giveaways and competitions. So, please please do have a look at the site and consider using it every time you shop especially as we will soon be leading up to Christmas when online shopping is used so much. If you need any more information or help with this, please let us know - thanks very much.

Continued overleaf.....

FUTURE DIARY DATES - A timetable of events is given below for this term. Further details (including times) will be sent nearer the actual date of the event which will involve all classes (unless stated otherwise). Following this initial newsletter any additions or alterations from the previous newsletters are shown in *bold and italic*.

DATE	EVENT	Details/Letter already sent (if applicable)
Wed 28 Sep	First Lace Making Session (Yr 2's only)	✓
Fri 30 Sep	Phonics Meeting for Reception Parents - 9.00 am in the Hall	<i>See above</i>
<i>Fri 30 Sep</i>	<i>Macmillan Coffee Event at College House 2.15 - 3.15pm</i>	<i>See above</i>
3 rd - 7 th Oct	Book Fayre Week	<i>Details being sent 27.9.16</i>
<i>Thurs 6 Oct</i>	<i>School meal taster day</i>	<i>See above</i>
<i>Thurs 6 Oct</i>	<i>Parents Fundraising Meeting at the Beekeeper pub at 7.30 pm</i>	
<i>Friday 7 Oct</i>	<i>Parents Fundraising Meeting at 2.30 pm in the staffroom</i>	
<i>Fri 7 Oct</i>	<i>Bacon Butty Morning /Dress up day - dressing up as a storybook character.</i>	<i>Details being sent on 27.9.16</i>
<i>Tue 11 Oct</i>	<i>Yr 2 Choir session being held Tues 11 October instead of Thurs 13 October for this week only.</i>	
<i>Thur 13 Oct</i>	<i>School Disco: 5.00 pm - 5.45 pm - Reception 6.00 pm - 6.45 pm - Year 1/Year 2</i>	
Fri 14 Oct	Harvest Festival am	<i>See above</i>
Fri 14 Oct	Whole School Coffee Afternoon	
<i>Fri 14 Oct</i>	<i>Clothing Collection</i>	
17 Oct	Flu Vaccinations for Yr 1 & Yr 2	✓
18 th /19 th Oct	Parents Evenings	
Fri 21 Oct	School Closed for Inset Day	✓
24-28 Oct	School Closed for Half Term holiday	✓
<i>Mon 31 Oct</i>	<i>First Yr 2 Lets Get Cooking Club</i>	✓
<i>Mon 31 Oct</i>	<i>First Yr 2 Kickboxing After School Club</i>	✓
<i>Wed 23 Nov</i>	<i>Reception visit to Greens Mill</i>	
<i>Fri 25 Nov</i>	<i>Crafts for Christmas</i>	
<i>Fri 2 Dec</i>	<i>Xmas Fayre - 5.30 pm to 7.00 pm</i>	
<i>Mon 12 Dec</i>	<i>Christingle (Choir children)</i>	
<i>Mon 12 Dec</i>	<i>Classes 1, 2 & 7 to Newstead Abbey</i>	
<i>Tues 14 Dec</i>	<i>Christmas Dinner Day</i>	
<i>Thur 15 Dec</i>	<i>Jeffrey Jumper Magician Christmas Performance</i>	
<i>Tue 20 Dec</i>	<i>Christmas Party Day</i>	
Tue 20 Dec	Final day in school - break up for Christmas holidays	

CHRISTCHURCH HALL PRE-SCHOOL

VACANCY FOR A PART TIME FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR

Christchurch Hall pre-school is currently seeking a part time, term time Financial Administrator to work closely with the Manager and Committee to ensure that the pre-school operates within the relevant financial and employment legislation and guidelines.

The successful candidate will be responsible for maintaining accurate financial records, preparing salaries, producing accounts for meetings and updating the website amongst other administrative duties. The role requires very strong IT skills in particular Excel, Word and the internet. Experience of book keeping and preparing accounts for audit along with payroll, PAYE and pensions is necessary.

Knowledge of the voluntary sector and / or educational sector would be an advantage.

The post is part time, term time only, hours to be discussed.

Candidates will be required to complete a DBS enhanced disclosure.

For a full job description and application form please visit our website –
www.christchurchhallpre-school.org.uk.

Closing date for applications is 3rd October 2016.