



Newsletter

AUTUMN 2017 – NUMBER 5 – THURSDAY 16TH NOVEMBER

Dear Parents and Carers



OASIS DAY NURSERY Grand Opening

Our new nursery building is almost complete and we are holding our grand opening tomorrow at 10.00am. I have invited Chris Harvey to conduct the official opening. Chris retired from Whipton Barton last year after twenty-eight years as a teaching assistant, so it seems fitting that Chris launches our new nursery. We are a bit tight for space, so it is not an open invitation for everyone. However, if you know someone who might be interested in sending their children to the nursery, please feel free to invite them.

Travel Plan

Part of the planning application requirements for the new nursery building was for me to produce a Travel Plan. Ultimately, the objective of the plan is to reduce car use and particularly congestion around the school. Below are some of the actions we will be taking in the future. I will give you more details when we “launch” some of these ideas:

- a. Half-termly prize draw for all eligible children who walk/cycle or scoot every day to school
- b. Termly prize draw for all eligible children whose parents park away from Hill Lane and Vaughan Road and walk the final 200 metres to school
- c. Hold termly “No Car Days” where we will encourage everyone, including staff, to find alternative ways of getting to school

As with many things, we will only manage to reduce the congestion around our schools with your cooperation. So many parents complain to me about dangerous and inconsiderate parking, so it is obviously still happening.

Hopefully, with your support, our ideas will help to make dropping off and picking up a more pleasant experience for everyone.

Nasal flu vaccination

Children in reception and years one, two, three and four are due to have their nasal flu vaccination on 1st December. If you have a child in those year groups but have not yet returned your forms, it is now too late and your child will not receive the vaccination in school. However, if you would still like your child to have the vaccination, you can contact Boots at Exe Bridges, or if your child has an ongoing medical condition they may be eligible to have it through your GP practice.

Club Reminder

We run a good range of after-school clubs, but we have had a few issues with children not turning up when they are expected. If your child is unable to attend their after school club please let the office know. If they do not turn up when we are expecting, then we will phone you, so please let us know in advance. If he or she has missed three weeks in a row, then we will offer the place to another child.

Winter is coming ..

Over the page I will share with you what has been happening in the junior school at lunchtimes. Part of that is being prepared for the weather and I have noticed in both schools (but mostly the juniors) that not all children have (or bring in) water-proof coats. There is a saying that there is no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothing and we will be staying out in the rain a lot more. I think the English need to toughen up a bit and take the lead from the Swedish and the Canadians. The Swedes have no concept of coming in if it is raining: every child has a coat. The Canadians only come inside if the temperature drops to below -20 degrees C. If your child doesn't have or refuses to wear a coat, they are going to get wet!

Mrs Wills' new addition

Congratulations to Mrs Wills on the arrival of baby Connie!





Many of you will have seen the recent Facebook posts showing the fun the children are now having on the field. We have worked hard to gather a range of materials and resources to encourage imaginative play – not toys but the sorts of things that spark children’s natural creativity and imagination: rope, pallets, cable drums, planks, guttering, dumpy bags, tyres, dressing up clothes etc. Our first few days since we launched this have been absolutely brilliant. I’ve never seen our children play so well and so imaginatively together. There are a range of benefits to what we are doing and some of these are displayed below in the pictures. In the meantime, make sure your child has wellies. There are a number of children who are keen but have said they don’t have any. We will be opening the field on Friday lunchtime at some point to Y2 children, so this is an advance notice to get those wellies sorted!

