



Dear Parents, children, families, friends, governors and volunteers

As our first half term of learning this year draws to a close we are delighted with this terms achievements. We have had a very busy but wonderful term and wish you a good half term holiday. We know that you will continue to enjoy the strong home-school partnerships which we value.

Now that the weather has become more autumnal we have found that our school field is beginning to become quite wet under-foot. Please check that your child brings a jacket and sensible shoes to school as we always ensure and encourage, if weather permits, outdoor playtime.

As you know, we are encouraging all of our children to travel safely to school and ask parents to drop off their children and park safely and courteously for the neighbours and if in cars, children to wear seatbelts.

This is a short newsletter for you to keep you up to speed with current issues and school events but please take time to look through our website regularly.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 2nd November and hope that you all enjoy a restful half term break.

Our Website

Newsletter only termly—Please check the website!

We know that many parents have already had the opportunity to visit our new school website and we would like to thank you for your comments on the clear and well structured layout and user friendly site. We hope that you continue to use the website regularly to keep up to date. The School Website can now be uploaded onto the home screen onto your mobile devices which can make things even easier. Please follow the guidance notes on the website under the Parents drop down menu to find out more.

Harvest Festival

We celebrated Harvest most recently and were delighted with the kind and generous donations of food supplies from our pupils and families. Our community room was filled with all the dry food and tinned goods and today we were able to drive the good to St Augustine's Church for further distributions. It is a wonderful way to help and support the community and we are tremendously proud of our pupils thinking of others in hard times. We have been asked to pass on their gratitude and assurance that 100% of the food donated goes to people in crisis .

Early Start Club

There are still spaces available in the morning for Early Start Club and the forms are in the office for your completion. The club is held in the New Hall from 8:15am until the start of the school day and only costs £1.70.

Book Fair

This years book fair raised more than £800—what a fantastic achievement. Thank you to everyone who supported this event.

MEET THE TEACHER EVENTS

We would like to thank parents who took the opportunity to visit us and meet with their child's class teacher. We hope that this has given you an insight into the class learning topics and the expectations and achievements in the year to come.

Senior School Applications

A reminder to all year 6 parents that applications for senior school places must be completed online by Saturday 31st October 2015.

We hope you have found the opportunities to visit local secondary schools useful in making your decisions and our staff look forward to supporting smooth transitions at the end of the year. Year 6 parents will receive notification of allocations in March 2016.



Healthy Eating

We are continually reminding pupils of the importance of a good healthy diet and discouraging sugars and bad snacking. To all new parents, we do have a no chocolate rule and ask that any pack lunches do not contain chocolate in any form.

School Uniform

May I thank you for ensuring your child is well prepared and sent to school in correct uniform. It does make a difference and ensures the children are smartly presented at school. Can I remind parents that trainers are not considered part of the school uniform and nail varnish should be removed prior to school. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Lunch monies

Please can we ask that all lunches must be paid for **in advance** as the time taken to chase up lunch debts is becoming increasingly time consuming and costly. Thank you in advance for your co-operation in this matter.

House Points

Ridgeway gained the most House points this term!

SPORTS EVENTS/NEWS

All news and sporting events are detailed on the website!
Please take a look and read our achievements.

Love where you live awards 2015

On Wednesday 7th October the 'Love where you live' awards were held at the Assembly Halls in Tunbridge Wells. Huge congratulations to Dominic

Somerhill Cross Country race

On Tuesday 13th October nineteen children from running club took part in the first race of the cross country league at Somerhill School in Tonbridge. Some superb results – children were incredibly proud – please read the website and have a look at the photos.

School Sports Organising Crew 2015-16

Ten children from Years 5 & 6 have been chosen to be the St Matthew's Sports Leaders for this academic year. This job involves promoting the school games values within our school, arranging inter house sporting activities, attending events along side Mrs Hookway to look after infant children, reporting on sports events for our noticeboard and newsletter, designing posters to promote sport, organising results tables and generally being a good role model and advocate for healthy lifestyles. They are as follows:

Jamie 6W Helen P 6TW, Chloe G 6W, Olivia P 6W, Billy M 6W, Eleanor T 5H, Caitlin B 5P, Jamie B 5H, Sophie W 5P, Harley J 5H

IMPORTANT SPORTING DATES

Thursday 5th November—Quicksticks Hockey at TWGGS

Monday 23rd November—Mini Basketball at Skinners School

Thursday 7th January—Sportshall Athletics at Angel Centre, Tonbridge

Thursday 21st January—Infant Agility at Angel Centre, Tonbridge

Tuesday 26th January—Sportshall Athletics at Putlands Leisure Centre

Class Representatives

We look forward to introducing the class rep network in our school! Many thanks to parents for volunteering.