



Brabourne CE Primary School



Newsletter 19th September 2018

War memorial

Last week I took Ruby, Sam, Tyler and Brooke to Smeeth Church to attend a service, led by the Bishop of Dover. The service was a re-dedication of the memorial to commemorate 100 years since the end of World War 1. The children wrote a poem, which is placed alongside the memorial, and I was so impressed with their maturity, respect and manners and this was noted by all who attended.

Promoting Independence at the School Gate

I have been very pleased to see our new children settle so well and so quickly. I have also been impressed with the way the older children have welcomed them to our school and looked after them. As we have had a few weeks to settle in, we are trying to encourage the children to come into school on their own, now they know the routine. I know the many siblings of the children in Venus will help bring their brothers and sisters in and we also have a very enthusiastic group of Year 6 girls who will be only too happy to escort the 'little ones' down to class!

Mornings

One of the things that we are proud of in our school is the family feel and we have always encouraged a more 'open door' policy than most schools. However, I would please remind parents that the mornings are an incredibly busy time for teachers, as they have a limited amount of time to set up resources for the day ahead. Of course, if something is urgent, it is important that we know about it. However, do come and see Mrs Mac or myself, as we can pass on your message without disturbing the teachers. If you need to see your child's teacher for a more in depth discussion, do make an appointment, as then they can set aside the time needed.

PTA AGM

There will be the PTA AGM today (Thursday 20th Sept.) at 11am in the school hall. Everybody is welcome and tea/coffee will be provided.

Cycling to school

A reminder to any children cycling to school – please dismount as you turn off Canterbury Road into the lane and **walk** down the lane to school. We have had a few 'near misses' when cars parked, at the top of the carpark, pull onto the lane but cannot see oncoming bicycles because of the hedge.

Early Club

Just a reminder that the Early Club starts at 8.15am (please note we do not supply breakfast) and cost is £1.50 per day (if attending all week the cost is reduced to £6 pw). Parents do not need to book – just turn up on the day. If you are just using the club on an ad-hoc basis can I ask that you pay as you go? Regular users will get invoiced by Mrs Mac at the end of each month.

PTO

RESPECT – RESPONSIBILITY – HOPE - COURAGE

School Dinners

I would just like to explain to parents how the Caterlink dinner system works as Mrs Mac is spending a great deal of her time chasing parents for payment.

Caterlink send in their staff twice a week to upload meals taken, up to and including that day. If there are no funds on the child's account the meals cannot be uploaded as the Caterlink system does not allow any debt. Therefore, some parents are going online and as their child's account is not 'overdrawn' (it may even show a balance of £1 or £2) they do not add any money. In actual fact there may several meals that have been taken by their child but cannot be entered on the account until sufficient funds are received.

Can I ask all parents to make sure there are sufficient funds for their child's school meals and, in the event of receiving a text advising of a debt, please pay sufficient to clear the debt and allow extra to pay for upcoming meals? This would be very much appreciated and save Mrs Mac/Caterlink a huge amount of time.

Reminders

- 1) Only stud earrings can be worn to school (these must be removed/covered with tape for PE) – no other jewellery is allowed.
- 2) Please can children always bring a light coat/raincoat – even if slightly drizzling we still get the children outside at playtimes, whenever possible.
- 3) Please take care before discussing school issues on social media – do come and chat to me or phone/email the school, as often the facts need to be clarified/corrected first.

Andrew Stapley
Headteacher

Dates for diary

20 Sep	PTA AGM – school hall
1 Oct	Sarah Prescott – individual/sibling group photos
5 Oct	Harvest Festival Church Service – Brabourne Church – 9am
19 Oct	End of term 1
30 Oct	Parent Consultation evening
1 Nov	Parent Consultation evening