

Newsletter

10 February 2012



Ofsted Report

We hope that you were as pleased as we were by the outcome of our inspection. Developing a new school for this community has been, and will continue to be, an exciting and rewarding journey. The inspectors saw that the children 'make rapid progress', and that 'The National Curriculum is taught in a particularly creative way which adds additional depth and richness and ensures pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is well provided for.' As you know, the combination of these two vital components of a full and rounded education has always been at the heart of the vision which staff and governors have for the school.

We were particularly pleased with the letter that the inspectors wrote to the children, because it makes clear how impressed they were by our young citizens of the future. Please make sure you congratulate your children for being so fab!

Feedback from Parent Consultations

1. Understanding Children's Progress

Some of you have said that you would like to know the 'levels' your children are achieving in the different subjects, and some of you - when we have given them - have said that it is very confusing, and they would rather just know whether their child is above, below or at the expected level for their age.

2. Homework

Some of you think your children have too much homework, some of you think it's too little!

There are different views on both of these views on each of the above issues. Make sure you come to our parent meeting on Tuesday, 28 February at 6pm, when you will be able to join in a discussion on these and other issues.

Book Fair

The Book Fair was a resounding success again - many thanks to the PTFA volunteers who ran it for us. It helps to raise lots of vouchers for us to spend on increasing our supply of books for the school, as well as keeping children excited and interested in books. We know it was a bit squashed; next year we will make sure that we cancel after school clubs for the week so that we can provide the Fair with more elbow room by putting it in the hall.

Road Safety

We have had several comments from parents about some of our children's apparent lack of road safety awareness when crossing the roads near the school. If your child now makes the journey on their own, please make sure that you reinforce all the usual rules about crossing safely, as we have done at school. In particular, please emphasise the importance of remembering to concentrate even if they are distracted by seeing a friend across the road.

Could we also remind you that we need to be informed in writing (a note in the contact book is fine) if you have given your child permission to walk home from school alone.

Parking

Please could we ask parents again to respect the yellow lines outside the school and not park on them at the times stated. Many parents have shared their concerns with us about the dangers posed to children by the crowds of cars in Vane Close in the mornings and afternoons.

Local residents have also complained about inconsiderate parking that blocks their access. We want, as we're sure you do too, our school to be a welcome presence in the local community and not a nuisance.

Have a lovely half-term break!