



Dallington CEP School

Issue 1

12th September 2019

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Providing children with Christian values that will give them confidence in school and the wider world

Welcome back

Another year has begun! The children have all come in happy and a little bit taller! It promises to be another exciting year at Dallington. We have lots of new staff but they have all been amazing in this first week and although they are all finding their way around our school they have already proved themselves to be real assets to our school. Our new year 6 look very grown up in their red jumpers and I am sure will revel in the extra responsibility that being the oldest in the school brings. As you read this we would have started to welcome the first group of our new Reception children. I am sure they will bring us lots of new challenges and happiness as they make their way in their new school. There are so many positives around Dallington School at the moment I am very proud of all of them. What we do not want to do is sit back and not continue to develop the staff, children and school. There will be lots of new and exciting things happening throughout the year.

Whilst I like to kid myself that I am practically perfect I know that I/we do not always get everything right. If you have any concerns, questions or observations please do not hesitate to come in and speak to us. Your child's class teacher should be the person you speak to first as they will have a greater understanding of what is happening in class however if it is a different issue my door is always open. Remember there is no such thing as a silly question!

Aspirations

As I write this newsletter Bodle Street class have just walked passed my door – they are all dressed

as their aspirational career. We have soldiers, authors, pilots, RNLI workers, mums, vets and so many other exciting careers. The whole school will be using aspirations as their topic this term- there will be class brochures out next week. If anyone would like to come in and talk to the class or school about their career, aspirations, achievements etc. please contact your child's teacher or myself. Thank you.



Helping out in school

Towards the end of last year lots of people said they would like to come in and help hear readers, work in the library etc. We would welcome everyone in to help – we have lots of ideas but little time! There are a few requirements we need to have in place before people can come in. We are planning to hold several days when parents can come in and we can help set you up. I will send a separate note home once we have fixed dates.

Flower show

Before we broke up I wrote and told you about the summer shows at Rushlake Green and Warbleton and the competitions they had put on for the children. Warbleton and District Horticultural and Poultry Society are running an Autumn show; it will be on Saturday 12th October at the Village Hall in

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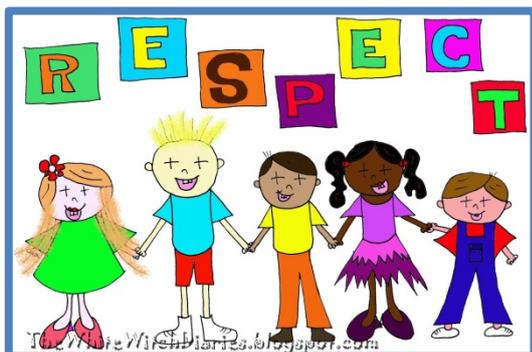
Rushlake Green. We will be entering some art work that we will be completing in school but please do collect one of their leaflets from outside the school office as there is lots of exciting exhibits and other competitions to enter.



Christian Values

Our Christian value this term is respect. It ties in nicely with the work we are doing around behaviour and acceptance. There is a display up in the corridor where the children can nominate other children for gold medals. It will also be a theme for our collective worship.

We will be holding a prayer meeting on Wednesday 18th September at 2:45pm. This is open to everyone.



Garden

I spent a lot of newsletter time last year talking about how 'bountiful' our garden looked and what a wonderful job the ladies had done. Well as you have returned this week I hope you have noticed the front of the school, the beautiful sunflowers, the bed with

lots of flowers in bloom- the school grounds look lovely. In July we also entered a competition through an organisation called Cultivation Street. I am really pleased to say that we have been shortlisted for school garden of the year. Winners will be announced towards the end of September. Fingers crossed!

FODS

There is a lot happening in school and the Ladies (and gentlemen) of FODS are working hard at the moment to bring you lots of new and exciting ideas. There has been a flyer come home about the new school lottery – this is a good idea as not only can you support the school but you might win something for yourself as well. If you would be interested in finding out more about FODS plans for the year they are holding their AGM on Tuesday 24th September at 2pm. The meeting will be in the school staff room. Come along, have a cup of tea, meet some new people and find out if you are able to support our wonderful PTA and of course the school.

Charities

Again we have some exciting ideas about supporting our community and their needs this year. These will unfold as the year progresses. However one cause that will span the year is one very close to home. We were approached by a lady called Jane Beard who lives in Brightling. The village are working hard to renovate and repair 'Mad Jack' Fuller's pyramid in the Brightling graveyard. They need to raise £45,000. 'Mad Jack' as he is lovingly referred to was a bit of a local celebrity in the early 1800's – we have several follies of his scattered around our local environment. The pyramid – as legend has it is the final resting place of Mad Jack. The legend goes that he is sat at a table in the pyramid – holding some playing cards in one hand and a glass of wine in the other! We will be working hard as a school to support this cause. Not only will we be holding fundraisers

etc we will be doing what we do best and that is educate the next generation about this eccentric local. We have several special weeks planned and several walks that take in his follies. If you would like to donate any spare change next time you are in there will be a pyramid on the counter outside of the school office. All of the monies we raise will go towards renovating the pyramid. There is also a sheet of ideas on how you could help the sponsorship progress.

Attendance

In this newsletter we have spoken about how parents can support the school. This is one very crucial area. Attendance is a real concern at Dallington. The target the Government set schools is 96% attendance, last year we were on 94% and at various times throughout the year we were even lower. We have several schemes running in school but it is not the children who decide to book holidays so I do feel a little bad that the attendance schemes rewards good attendance but sometimes the children are not to blame. Bad attendance can lead to repercussions for the school, your child missing out on education and important time with their friends. The school is going to tackle attendance with the strongest approach possible this year – this area needs to improve and will improve if we all work together.

Dates for your diary (will be updated regularly please keep checking)

September

18th Prayer meeting 2:45pm Centenary lodge
23rd - 27th Book Fayre
24th Year R coffee morning 9am

October

1st Year R curriculum meeting 9am
7th Individual school photographs
15th Harvest festival 9:15am St Giles Church
18th Welly walk – all am

November

7th Year 6 Takeover day 1
8th open afternoon 2:30pm
11th Parents evening 3pm
11-15th Anti bullying week
12th parents evening 6pm
14th Take over day 2
15th Mufti day for Children in Need
29th Decoration making morning – all am

December

11th Nativity 2pm St Giles Church
12th Nativity 6pm St Giles Church
17th Whole school panto
18th Christmas lunch
19th Carol service at St Giles 2pm
Last day of term
20th INSET DAY

January

6th Term 3 starts

TERM DATES 2019/20

Term 1	4 Sept 2019	-	25 Oct 2019
Autumn term break	28 Oct 2019	-	1 Nov 2019
Term 2	4 Nov 2019	-	20 Dec 2019
Christmas break	23 Dec 2019	-	3 Jan 2020
Term 3	6 Jan 2020	-	14 Feb 2020
February break	17 Feb 2020	-	21 Feb 2020
Term 4	24 Feb 2020	-	3 April 2020
April break	6 April 2020	-	17 April 2020
Term 5	20 April 2020	-	22 May 2020
May break	25 May 2020	-	29 May 2020
Term 6	1 June 2020	-	22 July 2020