

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am pleased to say that all of the 30 places offered in our Reception class in September have been taken, meaning that all siblings have been accommodated. This is very good news and we look forward to meeting the children when they attend for their induction visits next month. Mrs Pickering and her team have issued individual invitations to all of the newcomers and everyone should be clear as to the dates, but just in case:

- Induction 1: 1.15 - Wednesday June 13th
- Induction 2: 1-15 - Wednesday June 20th
- Induction 3: 1.15 - Thursday June 28th

Keeping to Reception, their Summer Assembly is scheduled for Friday June 29th at 11.20 am: Reception Parents are invited to attend.

I am sorry to say that we have to bid farewell to Mrs Karen Baines as Chairperson and Mrs Helen Tiernan as Treasurer of SAPA after excellent service to our school. We really do appreciate the time and effort that they have expended in tandem with their army of helpers, who turn out in force for big events like the Summer and Christmas Fairs. It does mean that we are reliant on two volunteers coming forward as replacements and lead the SAPA team for a period at least. If anyone is willing to take up the reins as the lead person or treasurer, both Karen and Helen would be happy to talk you through what this entails.

SAPA play a vital part in raising funds for our school and in these times of austerity their efforts on the children's behalf have been immense. Please have a think and see if you can help out in this respect. It wouldn't need to be forever and the possibility of annual appointments may be something that could take away some of the demands on time. Please let me (or Mrs Baines / Mrs Tiernan) know if you are willing to volunteer and we will spread the word re meetings etc. The date for the summer fair has already been announced and it would be a bit of a disaster if SAPA weren't involved.

The pleasant weather we have enjoyed recently means that we have to be "sun aware" and if the forecast is good then parents and carers should apply liberal sun block to their children first thing, so that they are set for the day with hats and caps perfectly acceptable. We do have some emergency sun block in school but please be aware that staff cannot apply sun cream to pupils unless we do feel that it is an emergency, perhaps if the class were on a trip or visit, so this shouldn't occur during a normal school day.

Water bottles are much in use across the school this week and the children know that it is important to keep hydrated. For hygiene purposes, water bottles should be taken home regularly to be washed, but as you will all know, the children are not 100% reliable in managing to remember to collect them each evening. What is making matters worse is a new type of water bottle which has a piece of fruit added as the fruit will rot if the bottle is not cleaned thoroughly. It would be best if only normal water bottles are used and a reminder that they are to be filled with water not juice, flavoured water or anything else. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. (We will again be buying water bottles for the entire new Reception intake).

There is a lot of PE and sport on the agenda at the minute too and Y4 performed splendidly at the skipping competition yesterday winning a range of silver and bronze awards but more importantly, everyone really enjoyed the event. (Can I remind all parents / carers to see that

the children adhere to the school PE kit please: White T Shirt / Blue Shorts and that the children's names are written / stitched on)

Monday sees the long awaited SATS week begin and we will be pulling out all the stops for our Y6 pupils who have prepared so well across the year. Everything is in order and we will, I am sure, look to everyone making the most of the opportunity to give of their best. It will be a good week and we all know from experience that it really does fly past, as it is without doubt one of the busiest weeks of the year. We will be all done and dusted before we know it. Playtimes will be staggered each day to make sure that timings for the tests can be adhered to and the Y6 children avoid unnecessary disturbance. A restful weekend is on the agenda for all concerned so that everyone is ready, calm and confident, come Monday morning. I would be grateful if parents / carers could note that I will be unable to meet, as would most usually be the case, at short notice any morning next week. Mrs Rochford will look to make an early afternoon or post school appointment if need be.

We have a bit of a mystery to try to solve re School Photographs. The photographer has two cheques from the account of a Mr or Mrs Allison - neither have been signed - does this ring a bell with anyone? If so please contact Mrs Rochford to sort things out.

A reminder that we will be holding an election for a new parent governor shortly - further information will be issued once the dates have been agreed with the Local Authority.

On Saturday May 19th we have a very special day in store and I'm not talking about the royal wedding, but our Y3 First Communion celebration that will take place at 10am at St Gregory's Church. Let us hope that the good weather will stay with us and that the children and their families have a very special day.

Have a good weekend.

Best Wishes.

Yours sincerely,

K J Smithson.

Head Teacher

