

Dear Parents / Carers,

Individual invitations to Open Evenings should be with you now and hopefully timings will be agreeable, though I am sorry to say that our siblings' night on Tuesday 16th has been a victim in some instances of a clash with staff CPD meetings booked earlier in the term, meaning that for a few parents' one trip has become two. I suppose it will be some consolation if the visits are shorter with appointments to timetable so it will help if we can all manage to keep this in mind, staff and parents both!

It will be nice to see our newest parents / carers visiting to hear how their children are settling into school and already making good progress in our Reception class. We will soon be looking to organise, shortly after half term, a special invitation for parents and carers to come along and join with the children for a school lunch - please look out for the invite from Mrs Douglas, Mrs McMullen, Mrs Sowerby and Miss Hope.

Year 5 will be leading our Harvest Festival Assembly on Wednesday from 11.30, with CAFOD and their "Wear Something Bright" appeal as the central focus. To mark the day and as part of our own special walk, everyone is invited to participate in wearing brightly coloured clothes to school (no football shirts or hair dye please) for a donation of £1. All monies raised will be going to CAFOD, though we are looking into involving our Pastoral Care Captains in how the total will be spent.

Thank you so much for your generosity in donating tins and foodstuffs for "The Key" centre in South Shields - the collection is growing and a final effort should see us match or even surpass last year's collection. A reminder that the walk will commence at 1.45pm and everyone is welcome to attend, so please come along. Afterwards SAPA will be serving refreshments including mulled wine, so that should be nice. Thanks to SAPA for volunteering and for suggesting something a little different to keep the chill out.

Friday the 19th October marks the final day of this half term and the first holiday of the academic year - the six weeks have galloped by. We return to school on Monday October 29th at the usual time.

I look forward to seeing you next week.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

K J Smithson

Head Teacher.