

**Long Road, Canvey Island, Essex SS8 0JG**  
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2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are well and the new year has got off to a good start for you. I can't believe how quickly the Spring Term is flying by and the half-term break is already in sight.

As I mentioned in my January letter, the children have all painted a pebble to commemorate Colchester Zoo's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the finished products were delivered to the zoo last week. Children from 78 schools participated in the project and the landscaping team at the zoo are currently planning the design of the rock garden. I will let you know when the installation is complete, should you wish to visit the zoo and search for your child's design.

I also mentioned curriculum weeks in my last letter and these are now firmly in the diary; Book Week will be during the week beginning Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February and Science Week the week beginning Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March. More information about each week will be sent out nearer the time.

### **Emotional Health and Well-being**

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week and, as this is a high priority topic, the children will be taking part in a variety of activities throughout the week. The theme for the week is 'Let's Connect' and Mrs Todd, our PSHE lead, has arranged a timetable of activities that support and enhance every aspect of children's mental health. Throughout the week we will be promoting the work of the NSPCC and exploring how children can help each other. The message to 'Speak out, stay safe' will be delivered via assemblies and class activities. As the NSPCC is a charity, we would like to contribute to their work and ask that the children wear a scarf to school on Friday and, if you are able to, send in a donation. Please send any money into school with your child.

### **School Meals**

Thank you for remembering to order your child's school dinner on time. The ordering system is completely out of our control, so if you leave it until the last minute and the system fails Mrs Kiln is unable to access it.

### **Punctuality and attendance**

This continues to be high profile and is closely monitored each week. I have noticed that there are a significant number of children who have a lot of odd days off. These odd days quickly add up, so please only keep your child at home if they are genuinely poorly. Our rule of thumb is, if your child has had a good night's sleep and has eaten breakfast, they are usually well enough to come to school. We will, of course, contact you if they become poorly during the day.

## School Uniform

We have a large collection of jumpers, cardigans, hats, gloves and water bottles. If your child is missing anything, please ask your child's class teacher and check in the school office as these will all be disposed of at half term. Writing your child's name on a label in each item would help us to identify who they belong to.

## Parent, Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA)

Our PTFA is going from strength to strength and I am so grateful to have them on board. They have shared their events schedule with me and it looks very exciting. Please do look out for the PTFA newsletter to see what is planned. If you would like more information about any PTFA events, please contact the team at [PTFA@canvey-inf.essex.sch.uk](mailto:PTFA@canvey-inf.essex.sch.uk).

**School Office staff are unable to help you with any queries about PTFA events.**

## Wraparound Care

We are fortunate to have the Multi-Active wraparound provision on the school site and I am pleased to inform you that they are now registered to cater for under 5s. Opening times are 7.30am until start of school, end of school until 6pm and during school holidays 7.30am – 6pm. Their prices are very competitive and they are currently offering a free taster session. For more information follow the link <https://www.multi-active.co.uk/>.

## Governing Board

If you would like to help our school to continue to run effectively, please consider joining our Governing Board.

School governors are responsible for overseeing the management side of a school and work alongside senior leaders to ensure the highest standard of education possible. Although the role is a voluntary position, being a school governor is a commitment to attend governing board meetings and to be a visible member of the school community.

Follow the link below for more information about what the role involves.

<https://www.governorsforschools.org.uk/app/uploads/2018/10/The-role-of-a-school-governor.pdf>

If you are interested in becoming a school governor, please leave your details with the school office team and our Chair of Governors will contact you for an informal chat.

## ... and finally

“At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents.” (Jane D. Hull)

Yours sincerely



Mrs Sandra Dorrington  
Headteacher

*Learning is a journey, not a destination*

