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6th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back! The Christmas holiday flew by and here we are in 2023! The children have been so excited to be back, but have settled back into the school routine very well indeed.

The Spring Term is always a short term and we have so much to fit in. The children have already been busy decorating pebbles to commemorate Colchester Zoo's 60th anniversary. These will be displayed throughout the zoo from next month, if you would like to try and find your child's design. Other plans to enhance the children's learning include a Science Week and a Book Week later this term. More information will follow as soon as final details are confirmed.

Please do remember to keep an eye on your emails, the school website and Facebook page for information as it is released.

To get the new year off to a positive start, please note the following reminders.

School Meals

Please remember, it is your responsibility to order your child's school dinner before 9am each day; you can order meals weeks in advance for your convenience. Please remember to cancel meals should your child be absent from school or brings a packed lunch instead, as the school is still charged for the meals even if they are not taken.

Punctuality and attendance

We strive to instil essential life skills and believe that good punctuality and attendance are crucial for a successful future. The doors are opened at 8.50am every morning, to enable the children to come into school and get settled before the register is taken. Should your child arrive after 9am, they will need to enter school via the school office and will be recorded as late. Arrivals after 9.30am are recorded as an unauthorised absence.

Children are legally required to be in school for 190 days each year, so if you are planning a family holiday, please arrange it during school holiday times or you could face a penalty notice.

Parking

As parking is limited in the location surrounding the school, please do try to walk to school to avoid congestion and to help keep the local area safe for the children. No parking is

permitted on the school site unless you have been given a parking permit. If you do have a parking permit, please only park in the marked bays and make sure all children are beside you at all times.

School Uniform

We believe that school uniform encourages a sense of belonging and helps to ensure that an appropriate standard of dress is maintained in school. Therefore, please make sure your child is wearing school uniform colours at all times, and remember that their PE kit must be school colours too.

Jewellery

Please note that for Health and Safety reasons, **at this school**, earrings or other jewellery must not be worn at all during school hours as children are involved in physical activity at times other than PE lessons. Physical activity constitutes playtimes, lunchtimes and outdoor activities in Nursery, Reception and Key Stage One.

Should your child inadvertently come to school wearing jewellery, you will be contacted to come in to school and remove any jewellery worn, to enable your child to participate in physical activity during that day.

Please consider only having your child's ears pierced at the start of the summer holiday so that they are able to take them out when they come back to school in September.

If the newly pierced ears have not healed they must be covered with fabric plasters and the child will be excluded from all physical activity until such time they can be removed.

Communication

We endeavour to notify you of information and events with as much notice as possible. However, it is important that you check your emails regularly to enable you to keep up to date with what is going on in school. Please let Mrs Kiln know of any changes to your contact details.

... and finally

On behalf of all the staff at Canvey Island Infant School and Nursery, I would like to wish you a very happy 2023 and to thank you, in advance, for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Sandra Dorrington
Headteacher

Learning is a journey, not a destination

