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1st April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I can't quite believe we have come to the end of the Spring Term already!

I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on how far we have come since COVID restrictions began to lift in the Autumn Term. Yes, we have had our share of positive cases, but we have not let this impact on how we do things here. The staff and children have been truly magnificent and have not let minor disruptions faze them. There have been times when it has been a challenge to cover classes, but we did it and the children's learning has continued regardless.

We have enjoyed parents coming into school to work with the children and it has been a pleasure to see so many proud faces at this week's Spring Concerts. We have other activities and events planned for the Summer Term so make sure you check your emails regularly for updates – remember to let us know if your contact details change.

School Trips

As the children have missed so many exciting things since the start of the pandemic, we intend to do as much as we can to try and compensate for this. As well as each year group planning their own visit, our Governing Board have agreed to fully fund a visit to Call of the Wild Zoo (formerly Tropical Wings) in South Woodham Ferrers. This visit is on 15th July - I will send out more information nearer the time.

Platinum anniversary

As you know, our PTA are organising a Fun Day in recognition of our Platinum Anniversary. They are currently looking for stall holders, so please get in touch with Stephanie Trew if you are interested. If you have any connections with community groups who would like to take part in the day, let Stephanie know as we would like to see displays of local talent at this event too.

Walk to school challenge

You have been sent information about **WOW – the walk to school challenge** which we will be embarking on from the Summer Term. The children will be able to self-report how they get to school each day and get rewarded with a badge if they travel sustainably at least once a week for a month. Living Streets is a charity that promotes walking to school to help reduce congestion and pollution at the school gates. Not only that, walking, cycling or scooting to school helps children feel happier, healthier, refreshed and ready to learn. I have noticed there are already lots of scooters parked at the gate so another scooter rack has been ordered.

New Caretaker

I am pleased to welcome Mr Simon Moon to the staff team. Mr Moon is delighted to have joined us and is already making his way through the mountain of jobs that have accumulated since November. I must extend my thanks to Mr Walker, Mr Maynard and Mr Dorrington who have been on hand to undertake essential tasks during this time. Not forgetting Mr Purser, Site Manager of Canvey Junior School, who has helped us to keep on top of health and safety checks.

School Uniform reminder

We believe that school uniform encourages a sense of belonging and helps to ensure that an appropriate standard of dress is maintained in the school.

Our basic school colours are grey and navy and we ask that children wear:

- ✓ grey trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore dress (blue gingham dress for summer)
- ✓ white shirt, blouse or polo shirt
- ✓ navy cardigan, v-necked jumper or sweatshirt
- ✓ plain black shoes (flat and easy fastening, please)

All children are expected to wear comfortable clothes for physical education lessons, so that they can move freely. On your child's PE days, we ask that they come to school wearing their PE kit.

- ✓ Navy shorts or jogging bottoms
- ✓ White t-shirt
- ✓ Plain black plimsoles or trainers

No jewellery can be worn at any time and long hair must be tied back.

The school has no preferred retailer from where uniform must be purchased although, items with the school logo can be purchased from Penn Sports, Kents Hill Road, Benfleet.

Please make sure all items are marked with your child's name, especially coats, cardigans and jumpers.

... and finally

Have a lovely Spring Break and I look forward to seeing you in the Summer Term.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Sandra Dorrington
Headteacher

Learning is a journey, not a destination