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1<sup>st</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

The beginning of this term has flown by and it is great to see the children just 'getting on with it!' The new Pebbles Nursery children have settled in nicely and the new Reception children are already finding their feet. The best thing of all is that the whole school can join together in assemblies and when out at play.

We are noticing, however, a lot of 'rough play' at playtimes and are working with the children to develop their social skills. We appreciate that, until now, the children were unable to mix at playtimes, so are not used to playing together. However, we do need to make sure the children are playing safely and therefore more adults are supervising the children and teaching them some playground games eg 'What's the time Mr Wolf?'

It has also been noticed that there are a lot of children running around the playground before school and have even been seen hanging from the basketball hoops. Please keep an eye on your children in the mornings, so there are no accidents or incidents before school starts.

Other than what I have mentioned above, the morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up appears to be working well. Thank you for standing back whilst you wait for your children; it is much easier for the teachers to see you and make sure the children go home with the correct person. Please remember to let Mrs Kiln know if someone different will be collecting your child, as we will only release them if the person collecting them is on the 'list'.

Our school values, **Respect**, **Resilience** and **Responsibility** are at the heart of absolutely everything we do at Canvey Island Infant School and Nursery. We have therefore introduced some areas of responsibility that Year 2 children have been given. The children will hold 'office' for one term and then the positions will be offered to different children.

For the Autumn Term:

**School Councillors:** Isaac, Luca, Alice and Leyla

**Library Monitors:** Alfie, Sienna, Oliver and Olivia

**Friendly Faces:** Harper, Archie, Eden, Amelia, Abigail, Ben, Jacob and Ruby

These children are very proud to have been chosen for their new role and are keen to get started. School Councillors will meet with Mrs Todd each month to discuss a variety of whole school issues, Library Monitors will meet with Mrs Sadler each week to tidy the library and learn library skills and the 'Friendly Faces' will help other children find friends and play games with them.

*Learning is a journey, not a destination*



## Parent Partnership

As you know, at Canvey Island Infant School and Nursery, we value positive partnerships with parents and I am so pleased so many of you attended the class welcome meetings. Thank you. There will be further opportunities for you to come into school throughout the year and we will let you know the details as soon as they are confirmed. Please do check your 'junk' or 'spam' in case our emails end up in there. Don't forget to check our website and Facebook page too.

Our PTA have already been very busy and have come up with some great fundraising ideas. Their first event is a Halloween Disco. This will be on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October from 3.15pm – 4.30pm. Tickets, priced at £3, will be on sale soon and will include drinks, a bag of crisps and some sweets. Children will be able to bring their costume, if they want to dress up, to school and get changed in the classroom before being taken up to the hall for the fun and games – no face paint, please. When picking them up, wait in your usual place in the playground and they will be brought out to you.

Other PTA events will include a Winter Fayre, Bring and Buy Sale, Valentine's disco, an Easter trail and, as this year is the school's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary, a day of celebrations which will be held on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

For our Platinum Day, we are hoping to have bouncy castles, bar-b-que, games, fancy dress competition, displays from local dance groups, tours of the school, a gallery of historic memorabilia and anything else we can think of! If you have any ideas or would like to help with the event in any way, please do let me know. Thank you.

## Reminders

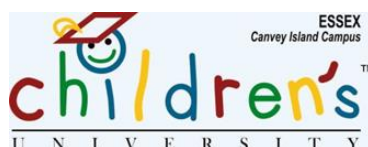
It is always good to see our past pupils coming to visit whilst they wait for their siblings to finish school, but I will be grateful if they wait with you. Some of them appear to have forgotten how to behave on the Infant School playground and have been seen jumping on the little toadstools, trampling the plants in the Swann Garden and hanging from the basketball hoop. The adventure playground is also out of bounds. Thank you.

Although the children can come to school wearing their PE uniform on PE days, please keep to the school colours. PE uniform is a **plain white t-shirt, navy shorts or joggers and black trainers**. No crop tops, please. The usual navy school jumper or cardigan can be worn too, if you wish. PE t-shirts can be purchased from Penn Sports.

## Book Fair

Mrs Sadler has asked me to let you know that she has arranged for a Book Fair to come to the school from Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November. A wonderful selection of books will be available and the school receives commission for every book sold.

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## Harvest Festival

Autumn is the time of year when farmers harvest and store their crops ready for the Winter. Traditionally, we recognise this event in school with a whole-school Harvest Festival assembly and collect food donations to be given to needy families in the community. This year, our Harvest Assembly will be on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October, so if you are able to donate one item of non-perishable food we will be very grateful. The donations will be displayed on the stage and, after our assembly, will be taken to St Nicholas' church.

### ... and finally

I am always pleased to receive letters, emails and telephone calls from parents and carers and really enjoy chatting with you in the playground each day. However, I would like to find out what you really think of this school and for you to make suggestions for further improvement. There is a suggestion box in the School Office foyer, so please feel free to drop any ideas in there. I am also attaching a link to a parent survey which I will be grateful if you would complete, please. You can either click on the link or copy and paste into your browser. Alternatively, if you would prefer a paper copy, please ask at the School Office. It should take no more than 10 minutes to do and, if you give your name, you will be entered into a prize draw.

Please submit your responses by 5pm on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October. Thank you.

<https://forms.office.com/r/ZviBEFhncF>

Please remember that if you have any questions, comments or concerns about anything related to school, please speak to your child's teacher, send an email or telephone the School Office.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Mrs S Dorrington  
Headteacher

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