



NEWSLETTER

11TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Welcome Back!



It has been wonderful to be able to welcome all our children back to school this term, including our new Year R children and several other new starters. The children have settled back into school life incredibly well and adapted to our new routines and systems with ease. I have spent time this week in classrooms and out on the playground and it has been a joy to see the children engaged in their learning and enjoying being back with their friends once again. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff team for their efforts over the summer break in preparing for the start of term and in supporting the children so well in their return to school.

Those of you who have been on site since the beginning of term will have noticed some changes – the front entrance of the school has been relocated and new signage has been installed. We've had lots of very positive feedback about these changes – thank you. You will also have noticed the external redecoration that is taking place around the building. This is almost complete and has given the school a much needed 'facelift'. Our next project is to transform the old reception area into a shared workspace and reading area. We'll share some photographs of this in our newsletter once this project is complete. Mr Cutter.

Staff News

We are pleased to be able to welcome some new members of staff to our team this term:

Mrs Vicki Woods has joined the Year 6 team as a class teacher and will also take a lead in supporting our families eligible for the Pupil Premium and those from our traveller communities.

Mr Lee Watson joins us as a learning support assistant and will be working predominantly in Years 2 and 3.

Mrs Keren Prince Hall has joined our office team and will be working on a Thursday and Friday.

Mr David Cutter is our new bus driver, with Mrs Clarke continuing to drive the second bus until we have recruited a replacement for Mr Wilson, who unfortunately will be leaving us on Friday to take us employment elsewhere.

School Uniform

The children are looking really smart in the new purple uniform and we would like to thank parents for their support in following our new uniform policy. We would just like to remind you that children need to wear *either* the new purple uniform or the old school colours (until the end of this academic year):

- Purple Polo Shirt with Purple Cardigan or Sweatshirt
- White Polo Shirt, Blue Cardigan or Sweatshirt

We ask that the two colour schemes are not mixed i.e. white polo with purple sweatshirt/cardigan.

Uniform orders can be made at any time in the school year using Scopay. We are able to offer a free sweater or cardigan for any pupils eligible for the Pupil Premium. These can also be ordered using Scopay. We also have access to a uniform fund, kindly offered by St Nicholas Church, so please get in touch if you would like some financial support in purchasing new uniform.

Inset Days

We are now able to confirm our inset days for this academic year as:

Monday 4th January 2021

Monday 22nd February 2021

Thursday 1st April 2021

Friday 18th June 2021

Monday 21st June 2021

You will notice that we have deliberately not scheduled any inset days for this term with the aim of maximising attendance to school for all children after the lockdown period. The two dates in June next year are scheduled to offer families a long weekend, when you may wish to take advantage of cheaper, term-time holiday prices. We hope that this will reduce the number of families who take their children out of school during term time and will be something that we will look to repeat in future years if successful.

Applying for Year 7

Parents of Year 6 pupils have now been sent the details of how to apply for their child's place in Year 7. Please ensure that you submit your application by the 31st October deadline. The local secondary schools are holding open days as follows:

Swanmore College - Year 6 Virtual Viewing Mornings

21st September to 25th September 2020, 9.00 am - 10.15 am

Participation is by appointment only. Please telephone the college to book your slot.

Cams Hill School - Virtual Open Evening

22nd September 2020

Maple Room Refurbishment

As some of you will know, at Christmas last year Time Out Club ceased to exist as a charity due to a lack of volunteers to take on the role of Trustee. The formal closure of the charity commenced and the former Trustees were left to decide what to do with the remaining financial reserve. The Charity's charter gave us clear direction on what funds could be spent on and so acting within those bounds, at our final meeting, we decided that we wished to spend the money on the children who attended the club. Mr Cutter put forward a proposal to us that we might like to fund the refurbishment of the Maple Room and we thought this was a lovely idea and voted to fund the project. Therefore, when you next drop off or pick up from the Club you will notice a much brighter, usable space which we hope your children will enjoy (and one that their friends will also benefit from as during school hours the room will be used by all children at the school.)

Warm wishes, The Trustees

