

Newsletter 12 (29/11/19)



Ladies Night – tonight!

The PTA ladies have been working very hard on last minute preparations for tonight's Ladies Night extravaganza! They have a fabulous line up of stalls and opportunities for pampering, plus the Luxury Raffle will be drawn this evening. Do go along and support the event and take friends & family for a great night out – all proceeds will be put to very good use! Thank you.

Photographs

Last call for photos – we will be submitting the order on Monday – we know quite a few parents have ordered online.

Online Payments/Cashless Catering System

We hope you all got your text & email alerts yesterday to enable you to sign up to our new online payments and cashless catering system – School Money. This is from the same provider as our text messaging system and feedback from parents so far is that it is very easy to use. We have sent details of credits and arrears as at today to School Money and they should be uploaded over the next few days so you may see a balance, if applicable, on your account by Monday. School meals and Wakey Shakey club are available to book right through to Christmas – you will be able to book meals (all three options will be available to choose from) and Wakey Shakey sessions and pay for these online. You can 'over pay' so you have a credit balance if you wish, this will be especially useful if your child has occasional meals and you want that flexibility. Please note that you won't be able to book anything without paying for it at the time of booking. We will still check registers in school so if your child occasionally changes their mind about a pre-booked lunch or decides to have a lunch on the day that hasn't been booked online, this can be accommodated but, in the main, the expectation is that this will be done online in advance (remember the MAT operate a forward payment policy so that arrears do not accrue). There is also an online 'shop' for uniform purchases. We will be adding things like trips & residential as they come up; at the moment Preschool parents have access to lunches which they can book and pay for online but we are looking at how best to deal with preschool fees on the system and that facility won't be available this term. By Christmas we hope everyone will be using the system and we can be 'cash free'!



Please note that lunch on Weds 18th December will be Roast Turkey (or Vegetarian Option) rather than the Roast Chicken menu on the system (it is a 3 week rolling menu so we don't want to change it just for one day).

Car Park & Parking in Claw Park

Further to our article in last week's newsletter, we have still had reports of driveways in Claw Park being obstructed – this doesn't mean necessarily parking across the entrance but the road is quite narrow at this end and if cars park opposite driveways it is then very difficult for vehicles to gain access – this would be particularly so with a larger vehicle like an ambulance. We are aware that a couple of residents require regular medical attendance and it could be catastrophic if this were the case when access is obstructed. We know that children are often collected by other family members or friends and it is important that this message is relayed to them as well so they are aware of the need to bear this mind. They also need to be aware that it is important to utilise all car parking spaces and not block empty spaces in the front line or straddle 2, 3 or even 4 spaces, as was the case this week! Thank you for your continued support; we know car parking is very difficult and extra vigilance is needed on wet and dark days.



Trip to Rosemoor for Years R-4

We still have a few slips & payments outstanding – please send these in on Monday – the overall response has been excellent. Special thanks to those who have volunteered to help on the day and with transport.

After School Clubs

As the last 2 weeks of term are very busy, next week will be the last week for after school clubs (staff may continue to run lunchtime clubs if they can manage to fit them in!). For Eco Club next week, Wendy wants to make Bees Wax candles with the children and would appreciate donations of small glass jars or spare ramekin dishes please. Thank you.

Christmas Arrangements

The Christmas Carol service is being held on Thursday 19th December and we have made the decision to walk the children to the church on that afternoon. Of course we will fully Risk Assess the walk and will follow all Safeguarding procedures and will send out a further letter detailing this next week. We will be looking for a number of parent helpers to support the walking bus in high vis jackets and will advise parents on arrival times and departing procedures nearer the time. We will also make a contingency plan for wet weather arrangements and make any necessary decisions the day before and communicate these to parents. It will be fantastic if we can join together in the church at Christmas for this most special of services and value your support in giving the children this opportunity.

Safeguarding

This week we would like to inform you about an important project that we are now part of in collaboration with Devon and Cornwall Police called **Operation Encompass**.

What is Operation Encompass?

Operation Encompass is a police and education really information sharing partnership enabling schools to offer immediate support for children and young people experiencing domestic abuse. Information is shared by the police with the school's trained Key Adult (Designated Safeguarding Lead - Mrs Marston) prior to the start of the next day after officers have attended a domestic abuse incident enabling appropriate support to be given, dependent upon the needs and wishes of the child.

Children experiencing domestic abuse are negatively impacted by this exposure; domestic abuse has been identified as an Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) and can lead to emotional, physical and psychological harm. Operation Encompass aims to mitigate this harm by enabling immediate support, making a child's day better and giving them a better tomorrow. Operation Encompass believes that children are victims of domestic abuse in their own right and should be acknowledged as such.

What are the benefits?

- Earlier and more effective intervention to reduce the impact of the trauma on the child
- Improved information sharing and multi-agency responses to the child and family with quicker and better informed assessments of risk
- Reduced stigma and secrecy that may lead eventually to a more open discussion of domestic violence.
- Enables children to feel secure in talking about domestic violence to a trusted adult in school.

By being an Operation Encompass school we are opening our doors to support people in our community who are victims of domestic abuse. If you would like to speak with the Designated Safeguarding lead (Charlene Marston) or any of our Deputy Leads (Tracey Vickery, Jamie Paget, Sarah Stroud, Justy Henderson) regarding this subject, please do not hesitate to get in touch. We are always here to talk and give support.

If you know of anyone in the community who may need support, please point them in our direction as a support network and we would be only too happy to help.