

PARENTS NEWSLETTER

October 2023

'Keeping your child at the centre.'

Parent contributions

We understand that things are very tight financially now, and that there is very little extra money around. However, we really need your contributions to help us to provide the little extras that we use with the children. Each week I spend about £50 on fruit; bread; yogurt; cereal; cheese for snacks for the children. We also buy shaving foam; flour; Cornflour to extend the activities we are able to give to the children. We ask for your contributions through 'ParentPay'. This is the best way for us to collect the money.

Last month I said about how you could make the contributions on ParentPay and we were happy to help set it up if you had any problems. However, out of the 95 accounts we oversee we only received £45 in donations. Fewer than half of the accounts have been activated. This is not enough to pay for one weeks shopping. I have attached an envelope this month. Please if you have any spare change, could we have it, for the benefit of all the children.

Parent Governors

Would you like to know more about how schools a run, and how to make a difference? **There has been no parent representative on the Governing board for nearly two years now.** We have vacancies for two Parent governors. You would be expected to attend a minimum of six meetings a year, although if you join a committee there would be more. We try to make the times parent friendly, some of the meetings are whilst your child would be at school; others are in the evenings. We always try to finish by 8pm for evening meetings. This is an exciting time to be a Governor as we are working on some of the actions raised in the OFSTED report.

If you are interested then please see Gill or Sophia, there will be an election if more than two people are interested.

Stay and Play

Saturday 11th November 2023 10-11.30

'Applying for Reception places.'

We will have activities and fun things to do and something for each child to take away. We are happy to answer any questions you might have or support you might need to apply for the place. We can also answer any questions you might have about helping your child to settle and the expectation the reception classes will have of your child.



You may not know that in London, not enough children have had all their doses of MMR, the number of children with measles is on the rise. You child is now mixing with 100+ other children. Take the opportunity to have you child immunised against these horrible illnesses.

Diary Dates

Saturday 11th November - Stay and Play 10-11.30

Monday 20th November - 'meet the teacher'. On this day, the school is closed and you need to make an appointment to talk to your child's class team about their progress

Wednesday 22nd November - School Photos. Photos can be taken, with siblings before your child's session.

Friday 1st December - 'Light up for Christmas'. Light up the Christmas tree; drink hot chocolate and sing Carols. (4-5pm)

If your circumstances have changed you might now be entitled to free school meals, please contact us.

We are happy to try and support you with any application. Even though we are not giving all children lunch here, RBG is giving vouchers for £15 during the holidays if you are entitled to free school meals. If you have FSM and a baby under 2yrs then when you register with the Children's center you will also get £15 for them. (Children are not entitled to their lunch being free until they are 3yrs - sorry not our decision.☺)

If you are struggling to cope, then please contact us. We can link you to the right places for support. Gill can also give Food bank vouchers which we know some families have found helpful.

Birthdays

We are always happy to help the children celebrate their birthdays. We love it when you bring in fruit for the children to share. But please note that we **WILL NOT** give out party bags or gifts to the other children. We have children who are allergic to a number of different things, and it can lead to pressure for other parents to do the same.

*Big Thank you
To Daniel for getting the
ground ready for our
wild flower meadow.*

Thank you to all the parents and carers who have worked with us whilst we wait for Barbara to start. She will be here from Monday!!!

Black History Month.

Black History Month is an important part of the inclusive education that we pride ourselves in giving. However, it is important that we celebrate this in a way that is accessible for 2 and 3 year olds. We focus on the children's heritage. Starting with their name. We have attached a questionnaire to this newsletter it would be great if you could take five mins to fill it out. (We also do not limit the celebration of culture and heritage to one month but throughout the year.)

Book sale 17th/18th October

We have some new books for sale. We sell them for £3 each. Well below the price you would pay in the shops. We use the funding from the sales to buy the children Christmas presents.

As always thank you for taking the time to read this. Gill & all the staff