



As mentioned in last week's newsletter we have benefitted from a visit from the NSPCC. Chris led two assemblies and workshops directly to target speaking out with regard to anything that construes unkind treatment. The workshops covered where children can go to get help and what they can do to make it stop. The topics covered ranged from name calling to cyber bullying to child abuse (physical/emotional) and neglect. I hope that your child will be able to talk to you about the aspects discussed.

The end of our school year is quickly approaching and I just wanted to recap on the few things we have been working on at school and the aspects we are focusing on for the coming year.

Our reports have been designed to communicate the achievements the children have made against the new curriculum. We hope that you have found them informative and have been pleased with how your children have progressed over the year. Our Year 6 and our Year 2 pupils and teachers have worked especially hard to be able to complete the new SATs. I wanted you to know that our results are a long way ahead of the National Average but I would like you to know that I want us to do better. In the past the school have used additional teachers to support the learning to prepare pupils for their end of year tests but I want to make a move away from this with teachers planning carefully to meet the different needs within the groups. This is what we have done with our teaching of Phonics in the infants and our results are up by 12% from last year's.

Your children have been able to experience spending time in their new classes. I am sure you can appreciate that a lot of time goes into the organisation of classes across our school where the teachers have agonised over friendship groups along with the learning needs of each child. Unfortunately information about circumstances in families has been brought to our attention that has meant certain children have had to be moved. Obviously these reasons cannot be disclosed but it would have been most helpful had we at school been privy to the information ahead of the classroom organisations. This is something we are to consider for the future and will be asking you next June if there is anything pertinent we need to know when organising our class structure. We will not move anyone due to friendship issues as every teacher has considered the wellbeing of the children but as you can possibly imagine even the movement of one child has a cascading effect on the balance of each of the three classes and therefore going back to the drawing board was our only option for our current year Four and Five children. I firmly believe that children need to feel safe and happy if they are to succeed.

We successfully have three balanced classes comprising of Year One and Two children, three balanced classes with Year Three and Four Children and three balanced classes upstairs for our Year Five and Six children. We are still fortunate to have two small Duckling Classes to ensure that the introductory year into the routines and expectations of school life is as smooth as possible. The overall aim for our school is to become a two form entry school so that we will not have to disrupt the dynamics that have been established during this foundation year.

My overriding ethos for our school is that I want all to achieve and realise their full potential. It is our job as a school to enable this to happen. Our electronic means of tracking attainment allows us to be responsive to each child's needs and identify the gaps in learning so that we are better equipped to meet individual needs. Each class has a Learning Support Assistant to work alongside the classteacher for English and Maths. Any support for specific needs will be provided in the afternoons as an additional intervention.

We have looked at the work produced by the children over the year and feel that we want to tackle handwriting and presentation. At Carleton Green we use a cursive handwriting style which is introduced from the very start in Ducklings with no leading into the letters but leads out for join. See the example below:



We are going to introduce an additional award during our celebration Assembly for the best presented piece of work from the week.

Instilling positive attitudes and behaviours is paramount to life at Carleton Green and we are going to tighten up our behaviour policy. We are planning on promoting positive play at lunchtimes through a greater introduction of activities that can be chosen to be accessed. Children can still obviously choose free play too. Our supervision is going to be increased too. We want to work together as a team to get the best from your children and always will ask for your support. Our revised policy will be shared with you in September.

We have witnessed over recent months pupils using language that is beyond acceptable and ask that over the summer our zero tolerance over bad language is reinforced in the home. The home-school agreements set out the expectations we can each have and in these we really ask that you support us. We are an open school that welcome any parent to air any concern and so we do ask in return out of mutual respect that all refrain from using social media to portray school in a bad light or from discussing in front of your children the concerns you may have.

Although Homework is not a legal requirement I do believe in its place within your child's education. It helps you at home know what learning is taking place in school and how it is being delivered so that you can support your child's learning more effectively. I am requiring all teachers to send home every week a piece of written homework which may be topic related, reading comprehension, handwriting and a piece of maths work as well as the reading book. The homework books are to be collected into class each week and marked with feedback opportunities from both home and school.

Steadily we are working our way through school to bring it up to modern day life. Our large playground and MUPA are to be resurfaced over the summer break with refurbishments taking place inside too. Herons, Parrots, Doves, Kestrels, Hawks and Falcons classes are all to be redecorated with new ICT equipment fitted to enhance their learning experiences. The toilets for our older pupils are to be replaced where the children have chosen the colours. The toilets in the infant areas are also to be refurbished with the flooring in the art area to be newly laid. These improvements are intended to make our school a better place in which to learn and work.

I still dream of getting our hall extension with a purpose built Nest (Nurture Room) and ask that we make a united and concerted effort to come up with many ways as we can to raise money. This larger hall will not only accommodate our children more comfortably but will also enable the community to make good use of our facilities beyond the school day.

One of our families has very kindly sent in this amazing offer:



£5 per raffle ticket with all proceeds to go towards our school hall. Purchases can be made at the school office. The raffle will be picked out on the last day of term.

Gentle Reminders:



As mentioned many times the carpark at the front of school is designated for the staff that work within our school only. We ask that all our families respect this and park outside the school grounds after 08:00. One parent sent this photograph in of such an incident:




We ask that you please stay out of the carpark and use the path to the main entrance.



Dates to note

(this list is by no means exhaustive so please keep looking for additional events and information)

Sat 16th July – Summer Fair/Carleton Green's 40th Birthday Party.  Hope you all like our brilliant banners to advertise this event. We'd like to extend a HUGE thank you to Mr Dukes for his efforts in designing and getting these made.

Monday 18th July – Little Chicks Graduation 14:00

Tuesday 19th July – Year 5/6 End of Year Production 14:00 & 18:00

Wednesday 20th July – Leavers' Awards Evening followed by BBQ. 17:30 onwards.

Friday 22nd July – Last day of term with an awards assembly at 13:00. (Be on standby as your child may be chosen for an award.)

Finish for summer at 14:30.

Fleetwood Town Holiday Club will operate every week until Friday 26th August.

Back to school September 1st 2016

Monday 5th September – Meet The Teacher Evening. We are providing two time slots:

1) 15:45 in the school hall 2) 17:00 in the school hall

Thank you for your ongoing support with all that takes place in and out of school.
Susan McGrath Headteacher at Carleton Green Community School.