



NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 4

Dear Parents

Parentmail

On Friday 9th February we will be upgrading our email communication system from Parentmail 1 to PMX. Letters will be sent home on Friday with further information - please check book bags.

Children's Data Checking Sheets

Data checking sheets will be sent home in your child's book bag this week. Please could these be checked and returned to the school office by Friday 9th February. Thank you for your support.

Spare Underwear Request

If you have any children's pants and socks to donate to the school they would be very much appreciated.

Celebrating Attendance

Congratulations to 2T, Owl Class, and 2W, Lion Class, for having the best attendance in school last week (100%). Well done Owls and Lions!

Parents' Evenings - 14th and 15th February

Parents' evening letters will be sent home with your child this week. Please make sure you check your child's book bag.

Busy Bodies News

Polite reminder re: February forms and fees

Final date for February booking form and fees is this FRIDAY 2nd FEBRUARY 2018, no later please. In January we had to remind over 40 families and it takes several working hours to chase up families and has a huge impact on us processing late booking and fees. This data is then transferred onto our payment system, which also has time implications and has an effect on your monthly finances. Booking forms are usually available at least up to two weeks in advance, so we find it difficult to understand why parents are not able to return their forms on time, especially when we allow three days grace before phoning families. Currently there are still a number of payments outstanding for January fees and we would appreciate if parents could kindly settle this amount whilst paying for your February fees. We hope that you will be able to support us this month by ensuring that your forms and fees are in on time, so that we do not have to chase up any families but instead be able to use this time planning fun activities for your children. Thank you in advance for your support.

PTA News

Please come and join us for the first PTA meeting of 2018. Thursday 1st February, 8pm at the Harvester Boldmere. There are lots of exciting things to discuss. It would be great to see you. All welcome.

Congratulations Board

Well done to these children for being nominated by their

teachers:

Reception

Edward, Sylvie, Megan, Tyler, Khadija, Oliver

Year 1

Erin, Kyden, Usman

Year 2

Jeevan, Hallam, Danny

Internet Safety Workshop

Letters were sent home yesterday inviting parents to an internet safety workshop to be held at infant school on Tuesday 13th February. Please return the tear off slip to the school office by Friday 9th February 2018.





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Hedgehogs!

On Monday 12th February, Andy from Snuffles Hedgehog Rescue will be delivering talks to children about 'helping hedgehogs in your area'.



FOOD DONATIONS NEEDED

Please help our wildlife by supporting Snuffles Hedgehog Rescue with a food donation.

WHY WE NEED FOOD
Up to 30 hedgehogs are admitted at any one time and we use up to 12 tins of dog or cat food a day, 84 tins a week and over 4368 tins a year!

WHAT HEDGEHOGS EAT

We feed meat based (not fish) cat or dog food in jelly (not gravy). We also use dry hedgehog biscuits available from Tesco, Wilko and most garden centres.

If you could make a food donation to the rescue you will be helping to keep these wonderful creatures alive.

The drop off point for donations is your classroom.

www.snuffles-rescue.com



Please see attached letter informing us how to keep hedgehogs safe in our area.

Hedgehog survival in the future relies on the creation of hedgehog friendly gardens.

For more information on how to create a hedgehog friendly garden visit our website.

Reception Health Screening

Parents/carers with children in Reception classes received a letter last week explaining that the NHS will be measuring the height and weight of their child and testing their hearing on Wednesday 28th February and Thursday 1st March (parents are not required to attend). If you **do not** wish your child to take part, please inform the school office in writing by Friday 16th February.

Nursery Open Day for September 2018 Intake

Nursery will be holding open sessions on **Tuesday 6th February** (10:30am and 2:30pm) for prospective parents of children who will be eligible to join the nursery in September 2018 (date of birth 01.09.2014 to 31.08.2015).

Savantha Kenny

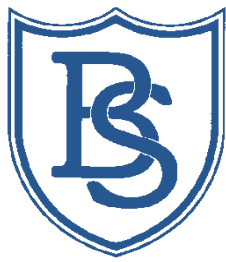
Mrs S Kenny
Head of School
30th January 2018

Winter Olympics 2018



Friday 9th February marks the beginning of the Winter Olympics 2018, and each class will be learning about a competing country from the games. Children will be invited to wear the colour from the flag of their class chosen country on Friday 9th February and further information will be sent home by your child's class teacher this Friday 2nd February.





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Snuffles Hedgehog Rescue - Four Oaks
Tel: Claire Hunt on 07889770958
Website: www.snuffles-rescue.com

Dear Parent or Carer

Re: Helping to keep hedgehogs safe in your area.

We are the only hedgehog rescue in the Sutton Coldfield area and would appreciate it if you could take a couple of minutes to read this letter, and consider putting some of the points raised into place, to help protect the local wild hedgehog population. It is estimated that there are now less than 1 million hedgehogs in the UK compared to over 36 million in the 1950's. The guidelines below are things we can all do to help prevent the wild hedgehog becoming endangered and dying out completely. This could happen before the turn of the next century unless we all take action.

- Create access between gardens- Hedgehogs need to roam between 12 and 15 medium sized gardens at night searching for food, and, during the breeding season (May - September), for mates. Please make a gap in or under your fence or gravel board of about 5 inches square so the hedgehog can access neighbouring gardens and find enough food to survive. Even if you have concrete gravel boards it is easy enough to dig a 5" diameter tunnel underneath the concrete board. If you do this behind a bush, no-one will see it and hedgehogs can come and go at night.
- Food and water – If you have hedgehogs in your area please consider putting out extra food at night throughout the year. Do not feed hedgehogs bread or milk as they are lactose intolerant and will be ill and die. They like meat based (not fish) cat or dog food in jelly, small meat based cat biscuits and sunflower hearts. Hedgehogs also need water to avoid dehydration. Please put a large bowl of fresh water out every night. One hedgehog can drink up to 1/3rd of a litre of water each night and dehydrated hedgehogs die very quickly.
- Keep hedgehogs safe when gardening - Hedgehogs are nocturnal and sleep during the day in leaves, compost, and bushes. PLEASE BE EXTRA CAREFUL IF YOU ARE USING A STRIMMER OR DIGGING as many hedgehogs are injured or killed in this way. If you find a nest please do not disturb, work around it.
- Slug pellet danger - Hedgehogs are very good for gardens as they eat beetles, earthworms, caterpillars and insects. They should not eat too many slugs as slugs carry lung worm, which will kill hedgehogs. If you use slug pellets and the hedgehog eats a dead slug, it will become very ill and die a very slow and painful death. There are alternative ways of killing slugs. Visit our website for a fact sheet about alternative slug management methods.
- Garden pond safety - If you have a garden pond please make a sloped ramp covered in chicken wire, or provide stepping stones for the hedgehog to climb out if it were to fall in, otherwise it will drown.
- Garden netting - A hedgehog can lose a leg and die if it gets caught in garden or sports netting. Please put garden netting above ground level, and remove sports netting at night.
- Drains and deep holes - Please make sure drains are covered as curious hedgehogs can fall in and injure themselves or die if they are unable to get out.
- Baby hedgehogs - Watch out for unsupervised baby hedgehogs out during the day from June - October. If you think they have been abandoned or might be in distress and you can't see their mum, call the above number for guidance IMMEDIATELY and visit our website for information. ABANDONED BABY HEDGEHOGS CAN DIE VERY QUICKLY. NEVER REMOVE BABY HEDGEHOGS FROM THE NEST UNLESS YOU KNOW FOR SURE THAT THEY HAVE BEEN ABANDONED.
- Road Safety - 50,000 hedgehogs are squashed by motor vehicles each year. Please look out for hedgehogs on the road at night and if you see one walking in the road please remove it to the verge side. NEVER REMOVE A HEDGEHOG FROM THE AREA YOU FIND IT UNLESS IT IS SICK OR INJURED.

If you see any hedgehog out during the day looking ill, injured or lying around and not moving in a purposeful manner, call your local hedgehog rescue for advice immediately, as time is of the essence. Sick or injured hedgehogs can die within a few hours and need specialist care. A hedgehog can look well but have internal parasites or injuries, which can kill them within hours.

Thank you for your support in keeping these beautiful wild creatures alive.

Claire Hunt – Founder of Snuffles Hedgehog Rescue

