

Friday 22nd November 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Road Safety and engines running…**

Thanks to parents and to our school council who have been making the important point about safety on our roads this week, handing out letters and leaflets. We won’t say it again here but you all know the score! We want our children to be safe and healthy and that will always be our number one priority. Thanks all.

**Building our alumni community…we’re very excited!**

You should have received an email yesterday about an initiative that we are starting in collaboration with the education charity, ***Future First.*** It involves building a community of former pupils (and even friends of those former pupils) who are willing to forge closer links with our school and perhaps be on hand to help us out and inspire our children in all manner of ways. So please get talking – sign up yourself and ask others to sign up on our online portal…the opportunities are endless! Thank you and here is the link (and there’s a poster too below…let’s watch our community grow!

<https://networks.futurefirst.org.uk/signup/urmstonprimary>

**Parents Evening**

Thanks to all of you guys who came by to meet with your children’s class teachers this week. It is always a super opportunity to touch base and discuss how things are going. If you need any further time with the teacher, please do let us know.

**Learning at home**

At parents evening, one or two of you mentioned the expectations at home. We must stress that we don’t want our children to be doing ‘homework’ at every opportunity. We want them to enjoy themselves. Of course, it is our intention that they will enjoy themselves when reading at home, both with you and by themselves, and so this should be the main focus. The rest should be mostly little and often – spellings and timestable rockstars included! We don’t want it to be a burden for you but rather an opportunity to see how engaged your children are in their learning and development. Any questions, please come and ask. Thank you for your support.

**SCIPS at UPS!**

As you are aware, we have a pastoral care team in place to support your children at school, should they need this socially and emotionally. Last week, our new SCIPS worker, Deborah Evason, started at UPS. Deborah is a highly qualified social worker who can provide further support and guidance to UPS families should they need it. Please, if you think you might need a little support or some signposting to what Trafford has to offer regarding Early Help agencies, do let us know.

**Christmas Fair**

Don’t forget our Christmas Fair is next Saturday 30th November between 12-2pm. Thank you for your donations of bottles, chocolates and teddies today and we hope to see you next Saturday.

**Christmas jumper/costume sale**

Please can you bring any donations to our Christmas jumper/costume sale to either school office ready for our PTA sale before and after school on Friday 29th November. Thanks in advance for your generosity!

**Science ‘Question of the Week’**

Our last focus was, ***‘How can areoplanes fly?’***. If your junior children were listening they’ll now know how! This week, the question is ***‘Why does the sky sometimes turn pink?’*** Please do talk to your children about this and help to further enhance their curiosity in the world around them!

**Fortnite…we’ll keep this on!**

For those of you whose children play Fortnite, please read the information found following this link. Many thanks.

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/a-parents-guide-to-fortnite-battle-royale>

**Continuing with E-Safety**

Keep an eye out for our monthly newsletter which hopefully will help with some valuable information on current apps, games and E-safety issues that your child (and us adults!) need help with. Our first issue (November) will be emailed out to you.

**Term dates…**

…for the 2020-21 academic year are now on our website.

**Being more**

We are still receiving calls and emails about how our children are ‘being more’ outside school. This is always lovely to hear so please keep them coming!

**Christmas Light Switch-on**

Well done to Mrs Byrom, Mrs Strickland and our Year 2 choir who sang wonderfully at the light switch on Queens Road in Urmston last week! Beautifully done everyone!

Have a lovely weekend

Kind Regards,

*Mr Parker and Mr Doherty*

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