



Headteacher:
Mr Wheeler

*“Shine like stars in the sky as you hold on to the word of life”
(Philippians 2:15)*

Friday 20th
October 2023

Good afternoon everyone,

We’ve made it to half term! It’s always such a busy one at the start of the year with lots of changes for the children to get used to, and they’ve done brilliantly.

There’s lots to mention today for celebration or information though, so without further ado...

Pamphill Choir

11 of our choristers (and a few hobby horses) performed at the Allendale centre this week as part of Wimborne’s Twinning Association celebrations. They were absolutely amazing and, in my completely unbiased opinion, stole the show as they spoke and sang in french about some of the animals we can find near our school. The **courage** they showed to stand up there and perform in front of hundreds of people in that hall was incredible. They sang with confidence and did themselves and our school proud. Huge thanks also to the wonderful Mrs Martin-Papp and our parent helpers on the night who helped with preparations and making it all go smoothly.



Reading at Home

Two of our classes have enjoyed their first prizes for class reading today - ice creams at school!!! Each class is set a target equating to every child reading 3 times a week at home. We use the reading records to monitor this. Unfortunately Stags are starting to lag behind having only met their target once in the last month.

Regular reading with experts (adults) is so important and we cannot make the progress the children deserve alone. Every week the children come home with a ‘love of reading book’ that they have chosen from the library as well as a book that matches their current ability. The latter is designed to help the children improve their fluency, which is why reading the same book multiple times (in younger years) is an important part of the process. These books are only changed if the children have read them, again, this is monitored weekly through the reading records. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher who will be happy to support.

Attendance

It has been a fantastic start to the year on this front so thank you for all of your efforts, we set an ambitious target of staying over 96% and we are currently sat on 96.8% - which is great news and means that as many children as possible are benefitting from uninterrupted learning sequences. The challenge will now be keeping this up through the winter!

Parking

Just a quick thank you to you all for responding to the new arrangement outside of the front of the school so positively, there has been a marked improvement in safety out there and I just ask that we continue not to park alongside the fence to keep the corner past the building clear for traffic.



PTFA

I am delighted to be able to tell you that at a recent meeting, Clare Humphrey was elected to chair the PTFA for this year. Along with her team, she is well underway with organising fundraising opportunities and events for the children. The main two coming up next half term will be the Pamphill 10 fun run (see detail below/ in previous communications) and the children attending the panto at the Lighthouse Theatre nearer to Christmas. We will be in touch in due course about further meetings and the AGM.

Wimborne / Pamphill 10 Runs

If you haven't seen it already, please check out the poster and letter relating to this event. It should be a fantastic community day with lots of fundraising going on. I know the children are excited to think about the pupils of the Emily Collins School, and we are enormously grateful to Lisa Stewart who is running the 10 mile race to raise funds for our school. Sunday 19th November is the day and there is also a team of people behind the scenes organising the pop up coffee shop that will be there on the day - with all proceeds going to the school. You may also benefit from a few test events in the build up as we get used to making some fancy filter coffees for the punters on the day. Watch this space.

Breakfast Club

Please ensure you are booking places as well as paying. Mrs Hurley likes to treat the children to special breakfasts occasionally, but she can only do this if she knows who to expect.

Thank you again for all of your support so far this year. Have a wonderful half term!

Mr Wheeler



Upcoming School /PTFA Events

Tuesday 31st October: Pumpkin decorating contest - £1 entry

Monday 13th November: Odd Socks Day (start of anti-bullying week in school)

Friday 17th November: Children in Need - spotty dress up welcome but donations to be made at home (if you choose to)

Sunday 19th November: Pamphill 10 Fun Run

Wednesday 6th December, 9:30am: Christingle Service @ St. Stephen's Church

Tuesday 12th December: School Trip to the Panto at the Lighthouse

Wednesday 13th December, 2pm: Christmas Performance @ St Stephen's Church