



Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020

### **Coronavirus**

As you will have seen with the information school has sent out and the national news there are now confirmed cases of coronavirus in Hertfordshire. This is obviously concerning for everyone and we are receiving daily updates from the Government and Hertfordshire County Council. At present, their advice is for everyone to complete regular handwashing with soap and water and that schools remain open. To ensure the classrooms are kept as clean as possible we have recently purchased two new steam cleaners which are advertised to kill 99.9% of all germs!

We have noticed that some of the children have hand sanitizer in school. Please can we ask that if parents want their children to bring these to school (just during the present situation) that the bottles are named and that they are given to the teacher at the beginning of the day. Children should not share these items for safety reasons (someone may be allergic) and cleaning hands should not be taking up lesson time. Hand sanitizers should not be left in the children's bags, sometimes the bags get knocked off the pegs and then dispensers may get trodden on.

### **Book week**

Last week all the children (including nursery) had a workshop with a drama company called Perform. The session's were based on a book that the class had been studying as part of their English lessons. The activities looked great fun and as usual the behaviour and enthusiasm of the children was commented on very favourably.

### **Next Week**

The 6<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> March is British Science Week. During the week all classes will have a workshop led by The Silly Science Company, they will be completing a class investigation and playing games and completing activities using a resource called Explorify.

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March we will be taking the children to The Lagoon to complete our Sport Relief run. They do not need to wear school uniform on this day but should wear something sensible to run in and must make sure they have a pair of trainers in school. We are not completing this as a sponsored event but would ask that each child bring in a donation (minimum £1) that we can collect and send off to the charity. We also still have lots of sport relief bands for the children to buy before Friday – they are £1.00 each, children can get them at break times from the office.

**Eco Council competition** – during February all the children took part in a competition to design a poster to encourage people to keep WGC tidy. The class entries were judged anonymously by Mrs Waring and members of the Eco Council who narrowed it down to 3 entries per class. These entries were then sent into the judging committee. Following the class assembly last Friday, the winner was announced. Jessica (Year 2) won the whole competition with a first prize of £1,000 for the school. Jessica and her family have also been invited to attend a ceremony with the Mayor. The school council, with input from our winner, will decide how to spend the money! Many thanks to Jessica for working so hard with her design and to Mrs Waring for entering the competition on behalf of the school.

### **School Meals**

The introduction of the new school dinner system seems to be going very well, the children have very quickly learnt how to operate the keypad. Please remember to order your child's lunch before 9.00 a.m. on the day of the lunch (you can order up to a term in advance). If you have ordered a meal for your child and they are absent from school please remember to cancel the meal before 9.00 a.m. Lastly please remember to ensure your child's account has credit on it at all times to cover the cost of the meal, thank you.

### **Parent Consultations**

Parent / teacher meetings are being planned for Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March and Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March. We are setting up an online booking system that should make booking an appropriate time to speak to the teacher/s much easier for parents. This is organised through SchoolComms and is the system that all the local secondary schools use. Please make sure the school office has your current email address as this is the information the system requires. The timings to meet the teachers will be slightly different this year:

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1pm – 5pm

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 5pm – 7pm

The system will be open for bookings from this Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> at 9.00 a.m. until Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> at 3.15 p.m. If you have any problems booking please see the school office.

### **School Journey IOW May 2020 – Year 6 Parents**

Thank you to those parents who have already made some payments online for the school journey in May. The first payment of £120.00 needs to be paid **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 27<sup>th</sup> MARCH** on the schoolgateway. There are about 10 families that have not made any payments yet so this is a gentle reminder to do so before this date.

### **Staffing**

Mrs Reed is currently absent from school due to family circumstances. Her teaching commitments in Year 1 are being covered by Mrs Ward and Mrs Boylan (on a Monday), both of whom are known already by the children.

### **Outside School Sporting Achievements**

If any children have had any outside school sporting achievements they would like shared, please let Mrs Claridge know. You can email her at [Karen.Claridge@panshanger.herts.sch.uk](mailto:Karen.Claridge@panshanger.herts.sch.uk).

### **Break in**

On Friday night the police were called to the school grounds – many thanks to the neighbour who called them to report the disturbance. Police attended the scene and escorted a group of individuals from the school site.

### **Class Photographs**

You should by now have received a copy of your child's class/team photograph code for you to view the photographs online. Please go to [www.expressions.gotphoto.co.uk](http://www.expressions.gotphoto.co.uk) to place orders. All orders need to be complete before Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

### **PTA Cake Sale – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March after school**

This week is the turn of the KS2 classes (Year 3 – Year 6) to provide cakes for the PTA cake sale which will take place after school from the dining room. Please bring any donations into school on the Wednesday morning and remember to include a list of all ingredients for all home baked and shop bought goods (NO NUTS PLEASE). Thank you to all those parents who baked or donated cakes last week – the PTA managed to raise over £100.00!