Ardeley St Lawrence C of E Primary School

**Newsletter**

16 July 2020

Dear Parents,

**End of the school year!**

And so this newsletter brings us to the end of another school year…and one quite like no other!

It was wonderful to welcome all children back this week and to see some faces we have really missed. All the children thoroughly enjoyed seeing their friends and teachers and I hope this has eased some of the anxiety about September that some of you may have had.

Throughout these recent, difficult and changing times we have been so grateful for your support, patience and kindness. My staff and I have received some very thoughtful and kind gifts to mark the end of the year; thank you so much for thinking of us.

This year has shown us just what we can achieve as a community; we couldn’t have done it without you! I hope you all give yourselves an OFSTED rating of ‘blooming marvellous’ and enjoy your well-earned school holiday!

**Back to School…**

All plans for September have been placed on the website today and hard copies have been given out to children or posted out. It is important that everyone is clear about the expectations for parents and children in September. Please ensure you read the documents carefully. As we will have all children back in, everyone needs to follow the systems to keep as safe as possible.

We will run a rota system for the first 2 days back in September - which are a Thursday (3rd) and Friday (4th) - giving children a day with their new class and, in some cases, teacher and allowing them a transition day to familiarise themselves with the systems and processes that will be in place. You will have received an email with these details.

Then on Monday 7th September, full classes will return and wrap around care will also be able to start (please see the parent information sheet regarding changes to this).

Children **MUST** have a warm hat, gloves, wellingtons and a very waterproof coat (not a ‘pack-a-mac’ or furry/denim jacket) **every Tuesday**. If you can provide a pair of waterproof trousers that would be helpful. I believe ‘Decathlon’ (in Asda) sell them cheaply as well as online. If you have any older waterproof trousers that your child has grown out of we would be delighted if you would donate them to the school.

The government have advised schools that there will be another announcement on August 11th and this also gives us time to adapt should requirements change. We will contact you before Thursday the 3rd September if there are any changes.

**A sad farewell…**

The children in Year 4 and Year 6 who are leaving us for new schools have spent a memorable last morning with us. We hope they enjoyed it and we wish them every success in their new ‘big’ schools. My thanks to Miss Sheldon for making such a lovely leavers’ slideshow.

**Virtual Show!**

For years now we have held a wonderful Summer Show in which every child has performed.

This year we have been unable to do a show ‘in person’; however we have still produced a Summer Show!

The Upper Key Stage 2 class have driven the ideas and everyone has had a chance to contribute. We have recorded songs and sketches at school over the last few weeks, many children have sent videos in from home and we have made the most of this week too, recording all children on the field (right up until yesterday!).

Our teachers (& Mr Minson) have driven the technical skills to put it all together. It will be a different, but fabulous, ‘Virtual’ Summer Show for everyone to enjoy and will be released digitally.

Every year the Summer Show helps us with **essential** fundraising for the school to directly benefit the children. We have been unable to do very much fundraising this year with so many events having to be cancelled.

**We are therefore hoping to raise funds through the release of our Virtual Summer Show; however we are asking only for a contribution of £3 or more if you wish to order a copy. Payment can be made via Wisepay or you can send the money in September.**

Once you have paid we will send you **a code to download the show** onto your computer. The show still needs some final edits so it will be sent out as soon as it is ready – however orders should be placed as soon as possible.

I really hope you can support us in celebrating this memorable year!

**Summer activities…**

We have updated the website with links to websites with lots of activities to keep your children busy! <https://www.ardeley.herts.sch.uk/parents-info/learning-links-for-use-at-home>

Finally, I wish you all have a relaxing holiday, however you manage to spend it! I hope that we see a little sun and that we all return in September refreshed and ready to start the new school year.

With kind regards,

Mrs Connolly