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23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As I write we are amidst the joys of an Artistic and Technology based Environmental Pause Week. Children across the Court Lane Academies are creatively engaged, collaborating and keen to show you their learning on Friday afternoon. This opportunity is an excellent end to a most successful half term’s learning. Of course as we go into Autumn 2 each school’s parent/teacher consultation meetings occur for you to discuss your child’s specific achievements to date and have a chance to discuss how home learning can be best supported.

#### Court Lane Community

Recently Mrs Geddes and I were honoured to collect ‘Good Schools Awards’ at the second Teach Portsmouth Awards Ceremony on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October on behalf of the Court Lane Schools community. We continue to liaise with many Portsmouth Education Partnership schools, outside agencies and of course our Trust family of schools. Both schools shortly have another Academy Improvement Partner visit to support and challenge the improvement work, we are striving to raise aspiration and make a difference for all. All of our staff engage in a high quality professional dialogue with University of Chichester Improvement Leads, as well as action research within curriculum network meetings. There is a relentless focus to maximise achievement and excellence for all. This academic year we shall be prioritising our efforts on the implementation and impact of the curriculum for a high quality education.

#### Local community support for Harvest

Thank you heartily for supporting the Portsmouth Food Bank with your generous harvest donations last week. Each school celebrated in an age appropriate way and had a visitor from the Foodbank who informed us about how they supply food to local families in need. We donated a significant amount of food to be shared for those who need it locally. A special note of gratitude to Rev. Good who attended the Infant Harvest assembly. If you would like to further support the Foodbank a collection point will be available in the front entrance areas at each school during the week of the parent/teacher consultations in November and at each further meeting over the year. Thank you.

#### Flu Immunisation

The school nurses will be in the Junior school on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November and in the Infant school on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November to administer the flu vaccination to all Infant and Junior age children. The vaccination is a quick and simple spray up the nose. Consent forms will be sent home ten days prior to their visit along with an information leaflet. Please ensure that you promptly return the consent form to school to ensure that your child receives their vaccination.

#### Parental guidance and online safety

Please can we remind you that there are some films and games that are not deemed suitable for young children and have age guidance to enable parents to consider this. It has become apparent to us that children are talking about films that are not suitable genres for primary children to be watching. These are being accessed on a range of devices

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including specific models marketed for children. Please remember these devices still need parental controls to be set as otherwise children have access to a wide range of media for which they are using voice commands to search the internet. It is really important to be vigilant with the media that children are being exposed to. If it becomes apparent to us that your child has accessed inappropriate media we will let parents know so we can work together to safeguard children. For further information about online safety please remember to look at our website where more detailed guidance can be found. <https://www.courtlaneinfant.co.uk/page/?title=Online+Safety&pid=46>

### Poppies

As in previous years, both schools will be selling poppies along with other related merchandise supplied by the Royal British Legion including rulers, reflectors and bracelets.

These will be on sale w/c 4<sup>th</sup> November when we return from the half term break.

They will be sold at the Infant School under the canopy in the playground each morning from 8.30am to 8.50am.

Junior children will be able to purchase these from the school office during break time.

*Please note that unfortunately, for health & safety reasons, the children will not be able to wear the bracelets or snap bands in school.*



### Local residents

Please can we ask that we are all respectful of local residents when arriving at and leaving either school. There have been a couple of occasions when residents have needed to contact school concerning access and exit from their own properties. Thank you for your courtesy.

### Applications for school places for Year 3 and Year 7 September 2020

All Year 7 applications have to be completed by **31<sup>st</sup> October 2019**. If your child is due to start in Year R or Year 3 in 2020 the application deadline is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019. We are extending an invitation to all prospective Year 3 parents for an informal meet and tour of the Junior school arranged through reception.

With my very best wishes for a happy, healthy and restorative half term break.

Mrs J Ramshaw  
Head Teacher of Court Lane Academies

## COURT LANE INFANT SCHOOL NEWS

### Recording devices including Vtech kidizoom watch

Please can I remind parents that children are not allowed to bring any device that records video or takes picture to school as we have to be vigilant with data protection rules and consent for data sharing. Recently a couple of children have worn watches that record data. On finding these staff have asked the child to remove the device, have stored them safely and the parents/carers have been contacted to inform them that any school based imagery will be deleted from the device before it is returned to the parent/carer at the end of the day. **Please support us by not sending in your child with this sort of device, as we cannot permit them in school.**



### Ceilidh dance festival

Children who have been attending the Ceilidh after school club run by Mrs Thomas this half term will be taking part in a Ceilidh dance festival at Springfield school this week. We hope they have an enjoyable time at the festival where they will participate with other schools.

### CLICA discos

Please can we remind you that this Thursday CLICA have organised a disco for each year group for which separate information has been sent to parents. Please can we ask that you are specifically aware of drop off and collection

points so we can safely dismiss the children at the end of each disco. We do recognise that it can be busy and we thank you in advance for your patience.

### **Naming of personal property**

Please can all parents check that all property has their child's name in it and check over half term that you do not have any other child's property. Many coats and school uniform are the same and they can easily be mixed up when in school. If they are named then this helps us return them to the rightful owner. We currently have a few coats in the lost property that are quite new, however they either have no name in or have the name of a child that is not on roll at our school. We do appreciate that some uniform and clothing is passed on but please alter the name in the clothing accordingly.

### **Skateboarding**

After several wet days when we had to cancel planned sessions to ensure that children were safe, we have eventually been able to put on the planned skateboarding sessions for children in Year 2. The Skateboarding sessions introduced a fun way to learn new skills and helped to encourage and develop gross motor skills. The children were very excited to put on the safety gear and certainly looked the part in their knee pads, elbow pads and helmets! This opportunity was provided by Team Rubicon who specialise in teaching children skateboarding and scootering. Weather permitting, Autumn 2 will see Year R and Year 1 participating in similar skateboarding activities.

### **Therapy dog**

You will have received separate communication about this. Please can you ensure you have responded to this communication to ensure we are taking account of any information you need us to know.



Mrs K Geddes  
Head of School - Court Lane Infant School

## **COURT LANE JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS**

### **Reading**

This year Court Lane Junior School are reaching out to the parent community to support us in developing our culture for reading. There are so many benefits to reading – please see the attached document which can also be found on our school websites. We are rethinking our strategies to improve reading for pleasure as well as in test outcomes. Therefore, I urge parents to attend one of our Autumn 2 reading workshops which will outline the approaches and how best we can work together to improve your child's enjoyment and stamina for reading. A specific letter with a reply slip will be coming home before half term.

### **Your child's last year in the Primary Phase**

In addition, on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm there is also a specific invitation to parents of Year 6 pupils to be more aware of all that can be done to support your child in their last year of Key Stage Two and help build their independence in readiness for their next phase of schooling. Our information meeting will also include SATs discussions. We look forward to seeing you there.

### **Volunteers in school**

Court Lane Junior School are always grateful for any support you can offer listening to readers, supporting with themes, resources preparation etc. While we appreciate many of you are working parents with very busy lifestyles – if you would like to support us this year, please complete the slip coming home this week with your Junior children. Thank you in anticipation.



Mrs J Ramshaw  
Head Teacher

**New key dates added since the last newsletter**

*(Please note these are subject to change and there will be further additions throughout the year)*

Court Lane Infant School				Court Lane Junior School			
Date	Day	Time	Event	Date	Day	Time	Event
8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Fri		HMS Nelson Remembrance Visit	5 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Tues		Yr 5 Trip to Kew Gardens Mercury & Jupiter
11 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Mon		Gymnastics Festival	6 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Wed		Yr 5 Trip to Kew Gardens Venus & Neptune
12 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Tues	9am-10am	Yr R Parent Workshop	7 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Thurs		Yr 4 Roman Day
14 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Thurs		Themed Lunch Menu British Food Fortnight	8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Fri		HMS Nelson Remembrance Visit
21 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Thurs	9am-10am	Yr R Working with your child session 1	11 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Mon		PTA Christmas Children's Decoration Workshop
27 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Wed	9am-10am	Yr R Working with your child session 2	14 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Thurs		Themed Lunch Menu British Food Fortnight
2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Mon	9am-10am	Yr R Working with your child session 3	18 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Mon	7.30pm	PTA Meeting. All welcome
10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Tues	9am-10am	Yr R Working with your child session 4	20 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Wed		Yr 5 Dance Explosion @ Kings Theatre
12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Thurs	2.30pm	Rocksteady concert to parents	20 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Wed	2.20pm - 3pm	Parent Reading Workshop
28 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Tues	AM	Yr R School Nurse Screening	20 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Wed	6pm – 6.40pm	Parent Reading Workshop
				21 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Thurs	9am-9.40am	Parent Reading Workshop
				22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	Fri		Yr 5 & 6 Author Visit
				27 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Wed	6.30pm	Year 6 Parent Information evening
				5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Thurs		Yr 4 Rotten Roman Celebration