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26th November 2019

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now well into the second half of term and staff were pleased to discuss and share updates of your children's progress so far this year. It is important that we keep this dialogue open.

Pause Week

At the end of the first half of the Autumn term we held an exciting Pause week across the two Court Lane Schools with the theme on Art and the Environment. Children took part in cross phase activities, creating a great sense of community and shared learning across the schools. Year 2 and year 5 went on a nature walk in the Junior School outdoor areas to collect natural resources for printing. Year R and Year 3 got creative painting leaves at the Infant School. Year 1 and Year 4 created fantastic collaborative natural collages using found objects. As well as this a number of children from Year 6 took part in a textile project at Springfield school with Year 9 pupils, making Suffolk puffs and printing onto canvases to create mixed media pieces which are now proudly hanging in the Junior's small hall. The week was alive with the buzz of creativity, with so many exciting activities taking place around the school.

Year R focused on the different seasons, they went on a nature walk around the school collecting items to collage. Using different media and materials, they created trees and bird feeders. Year 1 made a class bug hotel from different natural objects including leaves, sticks, grass, stones and evaluated it. Their writing was all based around seasons and how they change over time. They made a tree collage from tissue paper, giving the four classes a different season to complete. Year 2 focused on seasons and how the environment changes during them. Each class made a hanging bug hotel, to keep the bugs safe during the Winter. They researched what natural materials would be best, which bug would live there, and how it would hold together! They are displayed in the Jubilee Garden. To end the week, the Infant School took part in a dance workshop and performed an autumnal dance.

Years 3 and 5 focused on developing their printing skills – gathering items from nature, sketching them and then experimenting using them to make marks and print. They designed and created printing blocks, experimented with dying fabrics and using inks as well as fabric paint to create a banner per class. Years 4 and 6 focused on developing their textile and weaving skills, they engaged in a number of activities including; crochet and finger knitting to create animals, plate and card weaving, stick weaving and hoop weaving.

We celebrated the week by opening our doors to parents on the Friday afternoon. The school was a sea of vibrant colours, children really enjoyed sharing their learning and creativity with parents. A big thank you to all the staff who made this exciting focus for Court Lane children.

Torchlight Advent Event

I do hope as many of you who can will join with us early in Advent for carol singing (with good heart) accompanied by members of the University of Chichester Brass Band, on Wednesday 4th December at 5pm, at our fifth Torchlight Advent Cheer. Hopefully this can once again be outside, and with both schools and the local community we will, this

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year, be holding it in the Infant School playground. Hot drinks and mince pies will be available to purchase for a donation from 4.30pm, thank you to CLICA for supporting us. Pray for fine weather, wrap up warmly and remember a torch! There will be a collection to support the expenses of this terrific band who are volunteering their time on the night, so please contribute what you can. Thank you.

Poppy Appeal

Thank you so much for supporting the home learning. The response was phenomenal and the displays added to the poignancy of the Remembrance occasions.

Year 3 applications for Junior school and Year R starters for September 2020

Please remember that 15th January 2020 is the deadline for applications for Year 3 to Junior School and Year R entry in September 2020. We are aware there are some families who are yet to submit their application. It is really important that this deadline is met as your child won't be allocated a Year 3 or a Year R place until all of the on-time applications have been processed.

Flu Immunisation – additional dates

The Solent Children's Immunisation team are putting on the following flu immunisation sessions for parents to take their children to if they were absent on the day of the school flu sessions last week. These are as follows:

- Tuesday 3rd December 3-4.30 @ Somerstown Family Hub, Omega Street, PO5 4LP
- Tuesday 10th December 3-4.30pm @ Paulsgrove Family Hub, Cheltenham Road, PO6 3PL
- Monday 16th December 3-4.30pm @ Buckland Family Hub, Turner Road, PO1 4PN

Harvest Donations

Portsmouth Food Bank welcomed all the food contributions from the Court Lane Academies. The Foodbank require donations throughout the year so we will continue to be a collection point during the week of our parental consultations each term. Thank you for your continued support.

Polling station

Both schools are being used as polling stations on Thursday 12th December. Both schools will remain OPEN on this day. As the polling station will be in the large hall at the Junior School, there will be **no hot lunches for Junior children** that day. **Please send your child in with a packed lunch.** All Junior children who are entitled to free school meals have been sent a letter with further information. Infant children will be able to order a hot meal on this day as usual.

Christmas lunches

We hope that all our children will enjoy a seasonal meal on 17th December at the Juniors and 18th December for the infants - Don't forget the Christmas Jumpers on the day of your child's lunch! All Christmas lunches are to be **pre-ordered and booked online using SCOPAY by 9.00am on Monday 2nd December**. Caterlink are unable to add any additional hot lunches onto the system after this date. If your child is eligible for free school meals at the Juniors, please don't forget to contact the school office by 2nd December. All Infant children's meals will continue to be free on this day. Thank you so much to the volunteers of CLICA and the Junior PTA for providing all the extra touches.

Keeping us all safe

With many seasonal events looming, we once again politely ask all parents/carers to respect our neighbours when parking in the roads surrounding the schools. Please do not park over drives or on both sides of roads stopping the flow of traffic. The yellow zig zag lines outside our school **must** be left clear at all times so 'stop to drop' must not happen outside our gates or on the zig-zag lines. We have recently had some local residents coming in to complain to us about parental parking so please ensure you are considerate when parking. Local PCSOs are making random checks at drop off and pick up, ticketing parents parking illegally. Thank you for your co-operation.

I look forward to welcoming many of you into the schools over the next few festive weeks.

With my very best wishes.



Mrs J Ramshaw
Head Teacher of Court Lane Academies

COURT LANE INFANT SCHOOL NEWS

Year 2 Gymnastics Festival

Twenty-four of our Year 2 children were selected to represent the school in a local Gymnastics Festival on 11th November. The children had been working with a professional Gymnastics coach each week. Whilst at the centre, the children had a chance to try out the different gymnastics equipment and each performed the routine that they had been working on in front of a group of judges. The children were all very enthusiastic and thoroughly enjoyed their afternoon at the competition. They were thrilled to learn they had been placed in 4th and 9th Position out of 15 groups of children from different schools. Well done to all who took part. Year 1 are currently working with the Gymnastics coach and look forward to taking part in an event later on this term.

C.L.I.C.A.

The members of C.L.I.C.A are currently gearing up for their busiest fundraising time within school. On Friday 6th December, C.L.I.C.A. will be running their present buying day. Please remember to send in your child's slip on the day with the name of the four people your child wishes to buy presents for along with the money in a named envelope or purse. Saturday 7th December sees the return of the annual Christmas Fayre from 12-3pm, we hope to see many of you and your families there. If you have any jarbolos to send back in, contributions, or raffle tickets please return these to the office. Thank you for your continued support.

Year R Nativity

Rehearsals are well under way for the Year R Nativity taking place on Monday 9th and Friday 13th December. The sounds of Christmas songs are flooding the corridors and the children are looking forward to sharing the nativity with their parents. Tickets will be sent home via book bags w/c 2nd December.

Skateboarding Year R

The children in Year R have now taken part in their skateboarding workshop, this enabled the children to experience a physical activity beyond their usual PE lessons. The children thoroughly enjoyed this and it challenged them with their balancing and coordination skills. There was a great sense of collaboration as the children supported each other in having a go and supporting their partner to balance.

Year R parent workshop and subsequent ones

We have now held two of the Year R parent workshops and these have been very positively received. It has been good to see so many parents/carers attending. We hope these have provided you with a further insight into the curriculum your child is covering and how you are able to support at home. If you are interested in attending any future parent workshops then please note they are on Monday 2nd & Tuesday 10th December from 9-10am.

Contact forms

Please can we remind you that we need you to return the blue contact information sheet you were sent. It is really important that we have up to date contact numbers and addresses for you. There have been occasions recently when we have needed to contact the second or third contact as the number for the first number was incorrect or no longer available.

Year 2 upcoming experiences

Winchester Science centre

Year 2 will be going on an educational visit in January to motivate and engage children for their learning in the Spring term. Further information will soon be available about the cost. Please ensure that you have set up your Scopay account as voluntary contributions will be collected in this way. If you have any problems with setting up your account please contact the school office who will be able to help you.

Victorian Day

Children in Year 2 will have a Victorian day in January where they dress as a Victorian child. More details will be sent to you shortly but you may wish to start considering what your child might wear.

Crepes

We have noticed that some children are bringing in crepes with a chocolate filling. In some cases, the chocolate spread is made with hazelnuts. Please remember we are a nut free school as we do have children who have severe allergies to nuts. Please check the ingredients and do not send these in to school.

Coats

Please remember to send in a coat with your child as they do go out to play every day and without this some children are saying they are cold. We do not have spare coats for children so please ensure they have their coat every day.



Mrs K Geddes
Head of School - Court Lane Infant School

COURT LANE JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

PTA

Thank you for rallying to support the skeletal PTA for 19-20. With sufficient volunteers attending the meeting earlier this month, we now have the go ahead to reinstate some favourite events for children and adults. Thanks also to those who helped with the Christmas decoration workshop, the decorations should be back from Paint-a-Pot soon.

Useful information from the PTA:

- PTA email address: cljs.pta@gmail.com This is monitored by the Chair and Secretary of the PTA so feel free to get in touch with any suggestions or offers of help.
- Facebook group: This has now been renamed CLJS PTA (Court Lane Junior PTA) so that it is easier to find. Please join to keep up-to-date with events.
- School website: The PTA have a section on the school website (Parents/PTA). This has useful dates, contact details and minutes from the meetings so that you can keep up-to-date even if you are unable to attend.
- Requests for help: A film night is planned for Wednesday 22nd January. A request for approx 15-20 helpers will be sent out in advance of the letters home to ensure there are enough volunteers to run the event.
- Next meeting: Monday 13th January, 7:30pm at the school.

Forthcoming Showcases

We look forward to seeing many of you in school over the next couple of weeks at our forthcoming showcases, celebrating the children's learning this term. On Wednesday of this week, Year 3 will be presenting their 'Stone Age Showcase' to parents and carers and then on Thursday, Year 5 look forward to showing off their culinary skills at their 'Rainforest Café'. Next Thursday 5th December, Year 4 pupils will be performing their 'Roman Extravaganza'.

Year 6 information evening reminder

A reminder that we are holding an information evening for all parents and carers of Year 6 pupils this Wednesday 27th November at 6.30pm. The meeting will explain how you can support your child in their last year of Key Stage 2 and will also include SATs discussions: we will provide a timetable for SATs week, give examples of the different types of questions that can be found in the tests and give suggestions for how children can revise at home.

Carol Service – Church of the Resurrection

We hope to see many of you at our Christmas service at the Church of the Resurrection in Drayton on Wednesday 18th December. The **school** carol service will be held at 10.00am and the **family** carol service is at 6.30pm. Everyone is welcome at the evening service. We have been asked by the church to remind parents to consider the local residents when parking. Please do not park illegally or block people in.

Last day of term Christmas Chocolate Shop

As in previous years, The Junior school PTA will be visiting the classes on the last day of term (Friday 20th December) to sell chocolate coins for a contribution of £1 to help sweeten the last afternoon. Please bring money in a named envelope on the day only.

Rocksteady

A Rocksteady opportunity is currently being negotiated for pupils at Court Lane Junior School. More information will follow in due course.

Julie Lawley

Sadly, yesterday I attended the funeral of a former member of staff Mrs Julie Lawley. Julie worked for nine and a half years with our Site team until she left us earlier this Summer. I am sure you will join me in passing on our deepest condolences to her husband and their three grown up children. This was a huge shock to family, friends and our community and we shall keep them all in our thoughts.



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)

For a full list of keys dates throughout the year, please see the community section of the school websites.

| Court Lane Infant School | | | | Court Lane Junior School | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|-----------|---|--------------------------|-------|-----------|--|
| Date | Day | Time | Event | Date | Day | Time | Event |
| 9 th Dec | Mon | | Year 1 Gymnastics Festival | 3 rd | Tues | 3.30pm | Year 3 New Entrant '20 Tour |
| 12 th Dec | Thurs | | School being used as a polling station (school open as normal) | 10 th | Tues | 2.30pm | Year 3 New Entrant '20 Tour |
| 12 th Dec | Thurs | 2.15pm | Rocksteady concert to parents— <i>earlier time of 2.15pm and at the Juniors due to polling.</i> | 12 th Dec | Thurs | | School being used as a polling station (school open as normal) NO SCHOOL LUNCHES AVAILABLE |
| 15 th Jan | Wed | | Year 2 Victorian Day | 8 th | Wed | 6pm | Year 3 New Entrant '20 Tour |
| 21 st Jan | Tues | 8.40-10am | School Nurse/Parent Individual sessions | 13 th Jan | Mon | 7.30pm | PTA Meeting – all welcome |
| 21 st Jan | Tues | | Year 2 Winchester Science Centre | 16 th Jan | Thurs | 8.40-10am | School Nurse/Parent Individual sessions |
| 22 nd Jan | Wed | | Year 2 Winchester Science Centre | 22 nd Jan | Wed | | PTA Film Night |
| 11 th Feb | Tues | 12.30-3pm | Year 2 Dance Workshop | 11 th Feb | Tues | | Dance Live Heat |
| 24 th Feb | Mon | 1.30-3pm | School Nurse/Parent Individual sessions | 12 th Feb | Wed | 8.40-10am | School Nurse/Parent Individual sessions |
| 28 th Feb | Fri | | Year R Visit to Longdown Dairy Farm | 4 th Mar | Wed | | PTA Discos |
| 17 th Mar | Tues | 8.40-10am | School Nurse/Parent Individual sessions | 12 th Mar | Thurs | 8.40-10am | School Nurse/Parent Individual sessions |
| 30 th April | Thurs | | Class Photos | 13 th Mar | Fri | | PTA Quiz Night (for adults) |
| 1 st May | Fri | | Year R visit to Blue Reef Aquarium | 5 th May | Tues | | Class Photos |
| 5 th June | Fri | | CLICA Summer Picnic | 4 th July | Sat | | PTA Summer Fayre |
| 16 th June | Tues | | Year 1 Quad Kids | | | | |
| 18 th June | Thurs | 1-3pm | Year 1 Church Visit | | | | |
| 29 th June | Mon | | Year R Gymnastics Festival | | | | |