



Ancaster
Church of England Primary School

Newsletter 1

9th September 2016



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Dear Parents, Carers and members of the community, welcome to Newsletter 1 and the very first of the new academic year. We have had such a wonderful start back to school and it has truly been a pleasure to visit each class numerous times across the week and witness the calm, focused and respectful learning environments as well as feel as excited as the children by the wide range of activities planned and delivered by our excellent teaching team. Over the course of the holidays, much has changed in the physical building with the new library and foyer being completed ahead of our return to school and whilst there are still jobs to complete, the project is looking excellent and we cannot wait to have the library furniture installed later this month when it can be utilised by all. May I also take this opportunity to welcome our brand new families to the school-you are very welcome at Ancaster and it has been lovely to see the children starting their new school with such enthusiasm and feeling so settled after only a short period of time. Our school community is incredibly welcoming and inclusive and I look forward to getting to know you all and helping your children flourish and be the best they can possibly be! For now, at the end of the first week, I hope your child(ren) have a lovely restful weekend and look forward to continuing their learning journey next week!

Best Wishes, Mr Sam Eden (Headteacher)

Mrs Butters

'A Legend of her own Lifetime'



Earlier this week, we were informed of the incredibly sad news that Mrs Ann Butters, the school's previous Caretaker and Lollipop Lady, has sadly passed away. Ann was a truly wonderful person who many of the school staff feel privileged to have worked alongside. Having worked at the school for 30 years, Ann knew every nook and cranny of the building and was a real advocate for Ancaster and most importantly for the children of our school. Her strong work ethic meant that she undertook several roles in school over the course of her working life including Midday Supervisor, Cleaner, and most importantly, being our School Mum!

It is not only the staff that will be sad to hear this news. Ann touched the lives of so many people, not least those who were lucky enough to have been in her care across those glorious 30 years of working at Ancaster. Many of our parents are able to recall how she looked after them when they were little and how she was indeed their School Mum as much as she became ours.

Although Ann has passed away and we can no longer say it to her in person, there are two words everyone who knows her will possibly want to say and those two words are 'Thank You!' Thank You for being so smiley every day with the raucous laughter filling the corridors, for the constant cups of tea, the advice, the compassion, the care, the mischief, the friendship and most importantly for being someone who was true to herself and one of life's most genuine people!

In remembering Ann, this week she was described as 'a legend of her own lifetime' and we think just that-She is a legend of Ancaster and one that will be very sorely missed. Our very best wishes and thoughts are with the family at this sad time.

New School Uniform



The children look fantastic in their new uniform and are modelling the new logo on the jumper brilliantly.

Please be aware that we are not expecting all jumpers to be changed immediately-if there is life in an old jumper with the old logo on, please get the usage out of it before replacing with a new one which will have the new logo on.

Please be reminded that we also changed the colour of the polo shirt to be white across the school. Having changed the uniform in the Summer Term, we sent communication to say that we would like to see the children wearing white polo shirts instead of blue. If your child has returned wearing a blue T-shirt, don't worry or panic, just replace with a white one when they next need replacing. Thank you for your co-operation.

Visiting the School Office

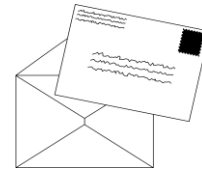
If you have visited the office recently, you will notice that the library and foyer project have meant that we have changed the location of the front doors. On visiting the school office, you will no longer be able to gain entry to the school without being let in by a member of the office staff. We have an intercom system that will need to be pressed which will allow you to speak to school staff in the office and they will release the door lock leaving you to open it and enter the school. This is a much safer way of working and once again should highlight to you how important we believe safeguarding your child is at Ancaster.

Relief Midday Supervisor Needed



We are currently looking for a relief Midday Supervisor to join our fantastic team of lunchtime staff. This role will not have designated hours, however the successful candidate will need to be available on days between 11.45am and 1.30pm. Should you have any questions about this role, please see Mrs Debra Moore (School Business Leader and Midday Staff Line Manager) who will be more than happy to answer your questions.

Letters



On giving out letters, every effort is made to ensure that all pupils receive a letter and that the letter is taken home to give to you.

Where we can, we utilise Parentmail and other forms of communication but there will always be a need in some cases to send a paper copy of letters home. To save you time, we have now established a Letters page of the school website in which any letters will be uploaded for you to print off if you lose or accidentally misplace it. This page can be found in the parent section and will be updated by Mrs Beard with every new letter as it is sent out. We hope you find this a useful addition to the school website.

Disco-23rd September



Our wonderful PTFA have decided to hold a welcome back disco on the 23rd September to celebrate our return to school. Mr Eden will, once again, be donning the decks to become DJ Eden and the night will be full of fun, party music and outfits as well as treats which will be able to be bought at the disco.

Entry is £1.50 and this includes all drinks whilst the children are present. Money can be brought to the disco where sweets and crisps and other treats such as glow sticks can be purchased. The timings for the disco are as follows;

Reception/Year 1/Year 2-5.30pm-6.30pm
Year 3/4/5/6 6.30pm-7.30pm

We look forward to seeing your children party the night away on the 23rd September.

Join the PTFA

If you would like to join our wonderful team of PTFA members as either a full member or simply a helper at events, please register your interest at the school office-thank you!

Curriculum Maps and Parent Letters

Teaching Staff from each class will have sent out their Curriculum Maps and Parent Letters today which detail their intentions for the learning over the coming weeks as well as crucial communication relevant to the class your child is in. Please ensure you have read these letters and maps as they will help you understand the learning and expectations of the class from the outset.

Congratulations Mrs Owen



On a beautiful sunny day in August, Miss McDonald became Mrs Owen and married her new husband in a lovely ceremony and is now settling into married life. Please join us in wishing Mrs Owen and her husband all the best as they start their married life together.

Welcome Mrs Field and Mrs Brooks

We have welcomed two new members of staff into our school family this term and they have settled in beautifully and love the school already. Mrs Brooks and Mrs Field will be One to One Support Assistants for a child joining us in Foundation Stage. Please join us in welcoming them to our school.

Clubs

We are in the process of setting up new clubs for this term and have a wide variety of clubs in the pipeline for all year groups and delivered by staff across the school. Letters for signing up will be coming out to relevant year groups over the next few days with all clubs being up and running by w/c 19th September.

Morning Routines

Please be reminded that school starts at 8.50am and children and parents can access the main playground from 8.40am. Please do not encourage your child to arrive any earlier than this time as there will not be anyone to supervise them. There have been instances where older children have been arriving at 8.20am and they face a long wait until their peers arrive. In the interests of safety, please ensure that children do not arrive before the time stated above.

Also, whilst on the playground waiting in the morning, please be aware that the Trim-Trail is not to be used and neither is the playground equipment. Parents must take responsibility for their own child during this time as they will only become the school's responsibility once the main bell has rung at 8.50am and school is in session.

165 Children on Roll-Ancaster Record!

We came back to school and hit a milestone! We now have 165 children on roll which is the highest number of children ever recorded at Ancaster Church of England Primary School. Once again can we welcome back all families known to us prior to the summer break and welcome our new families of children in Reception as well as those joining in year groups across the school-you are most welcome.

Collective Worship and Lateness

We have changed the time in which we deliver Collective Worship and this will now be at 9.10am each morning. Please ensure your child is in school on time as, if late, they will risk disturbing the rest of the school during this time. Research has shown that there are very strong links between children's academic achievements and lateness. A child who arrives on time and is ready and focused for learning will undoubtedly make more progress and achieve more. Thank you in advance for ensuring your child is on time to school.

A very warm welcome back from all Staff, Governors and PTFA-We are very much looking forward to helping your child be the best they can be!