



May 2017

Dear Parents,

Parent Partnership is an informal meeting between teachers and parents and an opportunity to have a discussion about topics relating to school life. Thanks go to representatives who gave up their time to attend Parent Partnership in May.

Nursery	Mrs Parfitt		
Reception	Mrs Watts		
Year 1	Mrs Gardner		
Year 2	Mrs Brown		
Staff	Mrs Farkas	Mrs Church	

Induction Feedback from parents in October 2016 indicated that the shorter induction period in September 2016 had suited parents and that children had settled well. Therefore, we will use the same induction schedule this year, which will ensure that teachers still have an opportunity to get to know the children in smaller groups at the beginning of the year. Details of the induction schedule will be shared at induction meetings for Nursery and Reception parents in June.

Reception meeting - 20th June 2017 at 7pm.

Nursery meeting- 27th June 2017 at 7pm.

Transition Children in school will have a transition day on Wednesday 12th July. Children who are new to Nursery will have play and stay sessions. The current Nursery children will attend their usual morning or afternoon Nursery session and will be taken by the Nursery staff to their new Reception classes where they will meet their teacher. Reception children and Year 1 children will go to their new Year 1 and 2 classrooms for the day with their new teachers. Year 2 will spend this day with Mrs Morrison and Mrs Farkas and will visit Sharmans Cross or Shirley Heath on 29th June 2017.

Organisation of Year 1 and 2 next year We intend to re-organise Year 1 and 2 classes with the aim of creating a 'through Key Stage' experience. This will be achieved by linking pairs of Year 1 and Year 2 classes in adjacent classrooms. Classes will still be taught in discrete age groups and have their own class teacher. Teachers and support staff will be able to support and mentor each other and practice team teaching. Most importantly, we believe that by facilitating closer working relationships and staff planning together children will have the best chance of mastering all curriculum areas by the end of the Key Stage. We believe that the reorganisation of the environment and resources will give children confidence within

their physical learning environment and the security of building relationships with the staff teaching them over a two year period.

Bike/Scooter Parking As the existing storage will be out of use after the half term holiday, Interclass have agreed to set up an alternative storage area on site. It will only be large enough for scooters. Therefore, if you need your child to scoot to school there will be storage for scooters but NOT for bikes. Staff will direct children to the new storage area on Tuesday 6th June. Parents thanked staff for dealing with this issue and for finding a resolution, that although not ideal, is a compromise.

Parking Parents raised the issue of traffic congestion. They understand that some families need to drive to school as they have an onward journey. However, they raised a concern that some families drive to school when they live close by and could walk. Parent Partnership would like to respectfully ask families who can walk to school to do so as this would ease congestion. It was also noted that some drivers leave their engines running whilst waiting to pick up children. This is also a concern.

Reasons to stop idling

A simple turn of your key can keep the air cleaner and save money and fuel. Every time you turn off your car engine in place of idling, you will:

Make the air healthier by cutting down on hazardous pollution in your community. Idling exhausts spew out the same pollutants as moving cars. These pollutants have been linked to serious human illnesses including asthma, heart disease, chronic bronchitis, and cancer.

Help the environment. For every 10 minutes your engine is off, you will prevent one pound of carbon dioxide from being released (carbon dioxide is the primary contributor to global warming).

Keep money in your wallet and save fuel. An idling car uses between 1/5 to 7/10 of a gallon of fuel an hour.

New Building During the first week after the summer half term holiday we will be re-locating the remaining Foundation Stage classes, Maple and Birch, to the new building. Phase 2 of the building project is now underway and the old Nursery building will be demolished during the half term holiday. Interclass will then begin to re-develop the outdoor area, which should be completed by the end of June.

Open Day Due to delays in completing the building, our Open Day has been put on hold. Our priority at the moment is to move the children with the least disruption and then we need to organise the rooms that are currently unoccupied in the new building. This will be difficult until the outside space and storage are handed over to us, hopefully at

the end of June. We hope to have an open day for existing parents before the end of the academic year and we are working towards this.

Spinners/Lego cards Last week staff decided that Lego cards and Fidget spinners should not be brought into school. We did notice these items creeping into school and hoped that we would not have to intervene and that they would not cause any issues. Unfortunately, over the past couple of weeks teachers have had to spend too much time resolving issues arising from ownership disputes along with items which have been lost, swapped and broken. If a child needs a fidget toy we will have already identified that need and we have an array of suitable resources in school for this purpose. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Dunfield Year 2 parents would like to thank the staff who organised and gave up their own time to supervise this visit which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

Next Meeting: Friday 7th July 2017

(Please note the change from the original date. Parents prefer to meet on Friday morning)