

Sytchampton Endowed Primary School

Stourport-on-Severn,
Worcestershire
DY13 9SX.
Tel: 01905 620418 Fax: 01905 621309

Email: office@sytchampton.worcs.sch.uk
Website: www.sytchampton.worcs.sch.uk



27th March, 2017.

Dear parents,

First of all can I take this opportunity to thank you for attending our recent parent consultations. Staff feedback was very positive and parents commented on the detail and amount of time they had with staff. At this time of the year pupils are working hard and we are busy preparing them for the Statutory assessments in Years 2 and 6.

Breakfast Booster

This is the first year 6 cohort at Sytchampton and their tests in reading, maths and grammar/spelling are externally marked. With this in mind we want to make sure that pupils are well prepared, so on our return from Easter (Tues 25th April) we are offering for year 6 only an **8.30am start** with some targeted revision. A snack and drink will be provided and we would appreciate a prompt start (breakfast club children will be sent across). Mr.Purdie will also have some dedicated time with year 6 in this run up period, with Miss Symonds covering year 5 and Miss Fraser returning to teach Hawks.

Health and Well being

There has been a great deal in the press and recent research in support of children's health and particularly sleep patterns. These days with so many gadgets to distract them it is important to have some calm time before bed and the importance of regular bedtimes. We always encourage pupils to read or be read to – the benefits are enormous.

On the health front we are also keen for our pupils to be active and we have recently challenged each class with a 'pedometer challenge!' just to see which class is the most active and to make the children aware of moving around. I know counting steps is very popular at the moment with phones and fit-bits supporting this. At a recent PE conference schools were made aware of the issues we face with future generations linked to sedentary activities/ screen time and diet. As a staff team we are passionate that we encourage children to be active, eat a healthy lunch and healthy snacks – BUT WE CAN ONLY DO THIS WITH YOUR SUPPORT.

We also use our pupil PE funding in a number of ways:

- We have moved some equipment on the playground to make it safer.
- We have more playground equipment eg. skipping ropes, balls.
- We join in competitions for all age groups with Droitwich schools – at least one per year group per year, the most recent was a year 1 gym festival held here.
- We pay for transport to competitions and fixtures.
- We have lunchtime clubs (currently 'just dance' KS1) and inter-house competitions.
- Our After school clubs currently offer badminton and golf.
- We utilise outside providers supporting our PE in school and have club links eg. Worcester Warriors, Worcester Cricket Club, Kidderminster Harriers and bellboating.

- We use 'Change4 life' materials to make children aware of healthy lifestyles (information has been sent home)
- Assemblies and PSHE sessions in school also celebrate our activities.

STAFFING

Mrs Cotocea our French teacher in KS2 will be leaving us at Easter to take up a post in Cheltenham; I would like to thank her for all her support. This post will be covered by Mr. Webster who will teach a combination of languages and computing. Our spilt class in Ospreys is working very well and emphasises our focus on quality first teaching.

I would like to thank Mrs. Norris for working with us this term and we will be welcoming back Miss Fraser to work alongside Hawks. Students in school bring fresh ideas, current research and we also gain from extra support in the classrooms. We pride ourselves in the success of our students; all of them comment on feeling part of the team and the positive ethos of the school.

UPDATE ON OUR SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

I would like to take this opportunity, as we are just over half way through the year, to remind you of our key targets:

To establish Sytchampton as a Primary School and prepare pupils for the next stage of learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 pupils in year 6 in Sept 2017. • Aspiration for these pupils with the introduction of our blazer and increased responsibilities around school. • All have secured places at local secondary and private schools. We will ensure that transition to all selected schools is managed carefully.
To prepare pupils for their next stage of learning with positive attitudes and a 'growth mind-set.'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition week in the summer term to get to know new teachers and share our high expectations. • Welcoming our new families in Early Years.
To encourage learners accept challenges in lesson and apply their skills to work at greater depth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our 'pink for think' and 'green for great' marking is embedded across the school and pupils are clear about their success and what they need to do next. We encourage pupils to apply their skills with additional challenge tasks.
Pupils social, moral and cultural learning is promoted throughout the curriculum, through assemblies, festivals and a pro-active School Council and Eco Council.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our calendar embraces festivals across different cultures and our School Council see fund raising as an important responsibility.
School leadership sets clear targets and promotes staff training through collaborative working, mentoring students and subject development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff are encouraged to keep up to date on current educational research and practice by working with other schools, teaching school alliances and the University of Worcester.

Easter Activities

Next week our PT A will be running our Easter activities and would be grateful for your donations for a cake sale on Friday 7th April ; they will also be holding a raffle and their LOTTERY draw !!

On Wednesday 5th April they will run the Easter egg hunt for each class.

Our assembly on **Friday 7th April will start at 2pm**, children have been invited to create an Easter bonnet/hat or create a display using any type of egg!!

I originally suggested hats for KS1 and egg displays for KS2 – but the choice is yours.

There will a prize for a boy and girl from each class.

I attach the calendar for our Summer term activities; this is our first draft so some dates may change.

START AND END OF DAY

Can we please remind all parents/carers that the staff carpark should NOT be used to drop off or collect children unless you have a disabled badge displayed or have agreed any special arrangements with Mrs Williams. There is limited access from the main road, and this carpark is used by staff and official visitors throughout the day. Our priority is the safety of everyone.

At the end of the school day our WACKY club children will be using the playground after they have registered, so we politely ask that families have left the playground by 3.10pm.

WACKY CLUB

Wacky Club will be open on our staff training day on Monday 24th April – if not already done so, please let the office know if you wish to book your child in for the day. We will also be offering Wacky Club on our next training day on Monday 5th June – please see the booking forms being sent home this week with the booking form for the summer term clubs. This booking form will cover the whole of the summer term as the activity clubs will not be changing after May half term, but you will be invoiced for each half term as usual, rather than altogether.

Can we wish you all a very Happy Easter break and thank you for your continued support, school re-opens to all pupils on Tuesday 25th April.

Sharon Williams

