

COURTWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

January

2018

Nurturing Knowledge,
Learning for Life



NEWSLETTER

General News

Our mum's breakfast was well-attended with over 95 attendees, thank you to all those who attended. At Courtwood we pride ourselves on the range of activities and experiences offered to our children outside of the compulsory curriculum. This term Year 6 have spent a week at Whitgift School, supporting transition to secondary school; the infants all took part in a fun-filled drama workshop and yesterday our choir sung at the O2 Arena. The half term culminates with the much anticipated PTFA Valentine's Disco on Friday 9th February.

Academy Consultation

You will have received a letter from Al Roseweir, Chair of Governors on 26th January informing all stakeholders of the decision to look at becoming an academy by joining The Collegiate Trust. We have launched a period of consultation where all stakeholders are invited to express their views. We have arranged two consultation meetings for anyone to come and hear more about conversion from our governors and also to hear from The Collegiate Trust on their vision for Courtwood. These will be on **Monday 26th February 2018 at 2.15pm and 7pm**. Childcare will be provided during the evening meeting for pupils of the school. A questionnaire was also attached to the letter sent on the 26th January providing you with an opportunity to state your view on the proposed academy conversion; the questionnaire is also available on the website. We look forward to seeing you at the meetings.

Healthy Schools—Lunch Boxes

To continue with Courtwood's great success with Healthy Schools and for us to adhere with government regulations relating to healthy eating and packed lunches please be reminded:

Children are allowed to have one small cake or a biscuit, containing no chocolate. 'Friday Treat Day' is the only day that children can bring in crisps or a chocolate treat. Products containing nuts, including Nutella and peanut butter, are **not** allowed on the school premises. 100% fruit juice is allowed in lunch boxes but water at all other times. If your child is spotted with an item in their lunchbox that does not meet these requirements a slip will be placed in the lunchbox as a reminder of our school policy. If unsuitable items continue to be provided, we will invite you in to school to discuss the importance of providing a balanced, nutritious lunch and encourage other options. Please remember all infant children are eligible for a free school dinner.

Our Healthy Tuck Shop provision (juniors only) is now running three days a week in the junior playground. The tuck shop is open on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday at break time. ALL items are priced at 50p and offer the children an affordable way to have a healthy snack at break time.

Maths Morning Feedback

Many thanks to all the parents who attended our maths mastery workshop on the 23rd January. Our pupil demonstrators were excellent ambassadors for our school and helped everyone to see how mathematical calculations develop as children progress higher up in the school. We hope to run future workshops for other subject areas, based on the feedback received from parents.

'It was very helpful to know what they are learning in school and how they are taught.'

'I usually use one method to do the problem but I can try different methods to see what works better with my child.'

'Maths has changed quite a bit so this was an eye opener to see how it's changed and help my son learn.'

'I really enjoyed this one and found it very effective away from the classroom and very specifically focused.'

Lateness

We are noticing an increase in some children coming in late to school several times a week. Please support your child to avoid the embarrassment of entering their class late by leaving in good time in the morning. If lateness is persistent, you may be invited in to speak with our Education Welfare Officer.

Term Time Holidays

Last year 26 children's attendance at school dropped to a level where intervention from the Education Welfare Service may have been called upon, purely through taking term-time holidays. Please avoid booking holidays in term-time. Thank you for your support in this matter.



Facebook: Remember to keep up to date with all school news and events so you never miss a thing; search '**Courtwood Primary Parents**' and request to join the group. Please note the page is only for parents who have children at the school.

Attendance Update

Class	Attendance	Punctuality
Reception	98%	9 lates
Year 1	92.2%	16 lates
Year 2	95.6%	1 late
Year 3	96.7%	12 lates
Year 4	94.1%	18 lates
Year 5	94.7%	10 lates
Year 6	97.3%	11 lates

Polling Station

We will be CLOSED on Thursday 3rd May 2018 as the school is being used as a Polling Station for local elections.

Parking—Hollywoods

Hollywood's Management company have contacted us to confirm that tickets are now being issued at £70 each to non-residents who park on yellow lines in Hollywoods.

Year 6 Whitgift Week

Year 6 experienced an enjoyable week at Whitgift School w/ c 15th January, as part of their Primary Project. The project enables local primary schools to participate in lessons in a secondary format including science, PE and languages. Pupils complete computing based tasks and are able to develop their skills using specialist resources not available to us at Courtwood. Travelling on the bus with their class and completing nightly homework allows our Year 6 pupils to have a taster of secondary school life in a safe environment.

Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day is on **Tuesday 6th February**. The children will build on their prior understanding of how to stay safe whilst using the internet and participate in whole class and whole-school activities throughout the day. There is also a competition to design an emoji to represent 'showing respect on the internet.' The winner will be announced during merit assembly on Friday 9th February. Please help promote the message of staying safe online with your child by discussing what to do if they experience anything they feel is inappropriate and by ensuring you are aware of sites, games and apps they are using whilst online.

Young Carers Update

The Young Carers project is now up and running with our partner from Off the Record Young Carers based in Croydon. Anya Destiney, the Education Support Worker, will be working closely with the school to help support us and ensure Young Carers identified receive support to help them with this role. Support that Courtwood can offer includes a dedicated peer-support club run every Wednesday lunchtime by Anya, Mrs McCormack and Mrs Worboys, a dedicated lunchtime homework club run on Fridays by Mrs Cook and access to 121 support as required. If you would like more info. Please use the message box in the school library area or contact us at youngcarers@courtwood.croydon.sch.uk

Upcoming Diary Dates

February

02.02.18—PTFA Cake Sale, 3.30pm.
w/c 5.02.18—Every Day Counts Week
5.02.18—Year 5 at Riddlesdown.
7.02.18—Year 5 at Quest.
09.02.18—PTFA Valentines Disco/ School closes
09.02.18—School Closes
12.02.18—16.02.18 HALF TERM
19.02.18—School Opens
23.02.18—PE Copper Box trip
W/c 26.02.18— BOOK WEEK
26.02.18—TCT Parent Consultations meetings for academy conversion. 2.15pm and 7pm

Fundraising

Currently we have raised **£252**—thank you to all who have contributed.

The next time you log in to ParentPay please have a quick look at the new link at the bottom of the page. We have set up a fundraising link 'Fundraising Donations' to enable anyone who wishes to support the school in this way to be able to do so. If you click on it you will be able to donate an amount of money of your choice, to the school.

