



Rushcombe First School

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Newsletter 1 Autumn Term 2009

7th September 2009

Dear Parents,

Welcome back everyone and I hope you all had a good summer break. A special welcome goes to all our new children and their families joining our school this year, including all the children in our Foundation base and across the school. I would also like to welcome Miss Gurney, our new Year 1 teacher, and Miss Weaver a member of a teaching assistant to Rushcombe. I am sure everyone joining Rushcombe First School this term, will soon feel at home. Please do remember that the staff are always on hand to answer your queries.

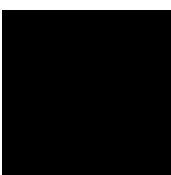
It has been a very busy summer at school. The contractors, Sculleys, have been working hard throughout the holidays, both making alterations in the existing school and commencing the construction of the new extension. My thanks go to the staff and Sculleys for their help in getting the school ready for the children. The building programme will continue in the autumn term and it is anticipated the extension will be completed by the autumn half term, however, school will continue as normal for the children.

Unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances the path from the parents/visitors car park to the school office and the nursery will have to be closed for approximately four weeks whilst further work is completed. If you need to visit the school office or the nursery, please will you use the temporary fenced path across the school playground. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

As you are aware, some year groups will now be in different parts of the school building and please take your child/ren to their new year group areas as follows:

- the new Foundation base will be in the previous Year 1 area
- the new Year 1 classrooms will be in the previous Year 2 area
- the new Year 2 classrooms will be in the previous Foundation area and the studio
- the new Year 3 classrooms will continue to utilise part of the Year 3 area and the study
- the Year 4 base will remain in its previous position

At the end of the school day all children should be collected from their classroom and remain with an adult, if there are any changes to collection arrangements it is important to let your child and teacher know. Please can I remind you that all children, including small preschool, should be carefully supervised whilst on the school site at the beginning and end of the day. Your cooperation in keeping our school a safe place to be for everyone at these busy times and during the building programme is very much appreciated.



I would also like to thank you for your support, good wishes and gifts to myself and all the staff at the end of the academic year.

Information Sessions for Parents

All parents are invited to come along to an information session with your child's class teachers. At the group meeting, you will be able to find out about the experiences and learning opportunities offered to your child, how the year group is organised and different ways that you can help support your child's progress and development. The meetings will take place in the year group and the dates and times are as follows:

Thursday 17 th September	7.00 pm	Year 4 - Mrs Benham, Mrs Ely, Mrs Hill & Mrs Holmes
Monday 21 st September	7.00 pm	Year 3 - Mr McCormick & Mrs Joyner
Thursday 24 th September	7.00 pm	Year 2 - Miss Brown & Mrs Russell
Monday 28 th September	7.00 pm	Year 1 - Miss Gerra & Miss Gurney
Tuesday 29 th September	7.00 pm	Foundation - Mrs Connolly & Miss Newbury

Entry into school will be via the school playground and we would appreciate that children are not brought with you on this occasion. Later in the term, we will be organising individual parent consultations to enable children's progress to be reviewed in more detail.

School Uniform

Our school uniform provides the children with a sense of belonging, community and pride in their school. It is practical and the children do look smart in their uniform. Our school colours are red, white and grey. A reminder, that if you are purchasing new items for the new academic year the children wear the following items:

- Grey trousers, shorts, skirts or pinafore dress as appropriate [trousers should be grey school type/tailored trousers and not fashion or casual trousers]
- Red and white striped or checked summer dress
- White shirt, blouse or polo shirt
- Red school sweatshirt
- Grey, white or black socks or tights as appropriate
- Black flat sensible school shoes [no trainers please]

Please make sure that all items of clothing are labelled to prevent them from getting lost around the school. Thank you for your continued support of the uniform guidelines. Other items, such as reading bags, water bottles are available from the school office.

School Trips and Outings

Throughout the year, the staff organise a programme of visits to support the curriculum and provide a range of learning opportunities beyond the school environment. We welcome your support with this programme which is enjoyed by all the children. Please remember to return permission slips promptly to school, as your child cannot participate in a school outing without your written permission. We encourage and appreciate all your contributions to the cost of the trips without which these visits would not be possible.

Road Safety and Car Parking

Please can I remind those parents who drive their children to and from school, to consider the safety of other children and parents, and to use the parking bays as marked out. Your support with this matter is appreciated.

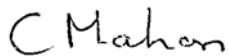
We would be grateful that the children do not ride their scooters, bikes and other similar equipment until they leave the school environment.

Parent Help and Information Meeting

We greatly appreciate parents and other family members helping around the school, including supporting in class. If you are interested and able to help in any way, please call in to the school office to collect a CRB [Criminal Record Bureau] form as all regular visitors to school are required to complete one. There will be a meeting on Wednesday 16th September at 9.00 am in the hall for all parents who would like further information.

Details of additional events and activities will follow during the term.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs C Mahon
Headteacher