

4th December 2017

Newsletter 7 Autumn Term 2017



Dear Parents

The children are busy preparing for our different Christmas performances over the next couple of weeks and we look forward to seeing you soon at the Foundation Nativity, Key Stage 1 [Year 1 & 2] Christmas Play and/or Key Stage 2 [Year 3 & 4] Christmas Concert in the school hall. There are some unclaimed reserve tickets now available from the school office. Please remember to bring your tickets with you on the day.

A reminder that parents are able to take photos/videos of their child during school events but it is recommended that images that include other children should not be uploaded onto social media websites unless permission is sought from their parents. In addition, we would appreciate it if you could make alternative arrangements for the care of younger siblings. They often find it difficult to sit through a performance and can distract the children and disturb the audience. Thank you for your co-operation with this matter.

I would like to thank everyone for helping to make the school look so lovely and bright by attending our recent Christmas Decoration sessions.

Thank you also for your kind contributions to the recent Children in Need appeal. The children thoroughly enjoyed bringing their teddy bears to school. Over £340.00 was raised. Well done, everyone.

Tea Towels

A reminder that Portrait Tea Towels are still available for you to purchase from the Friends of Rushcombe. Please contact the school office for more details including the purchase order form.

Christmas Post

The Rushcombe post box is available in school for the children to post their Christmas cards to each other. Please can we remind you that all envelopes need to be clearly addressed with the Christian name, surname and class of the child it is being sent to.

Christmas Party

As part of our Christmas celebrations, the children will be involved in a range of Christmas activities and on the last day, Friday 15th December, all children can wear their own/party clothes.

Corfe Mullen Library Mini Reading Challenge

Corfe Mullen Library is inviting all children to take part in a mini Reading Challenge over the holiday period, until January 2018. To take part your child will need to read three books. For more details contact the Library on 01202 659755 or via email: corfemullenlibrary@dorsetcc.gov.uk.

Universal Infant Free School Meals [Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2]

Chartwells, the catering company, have created a new packed lunch menu for the spring term. Please see the accompanying information sheet for further details. Parents with children in Foundation, Year 1 or Year 2 and who wish to order a free packed lunch for their child, should use Chartwells online ordering system for the forthcoming term. Please note the on-line ordering system requires parents to order their child's meals up until the cut off time of midnight on Sunday – 7 days before the full week in which the meals are to be served. It is recommended that parents complete their child's order for the whole term.

School Uniform Award

If your child does qualify for a free school meal [due to income] and the award is granted by the Local Authority, the Governing Body of Rushcombe First School has agreed that those children who are in receipt of a free school meal award will also be eligible to receive a one off annual school uniform award. This will include the following: one Rushcombe First School sweatshirt, one Rushcombe PE t-shirt, one pair of red shorts and one Rushcombe book bag. This is approximately to the value of £24.00. The items can be claimed once at any time during each academic year.

School Uniform

Thank you for supporting the school's uniform guidelines. A reminder, that if you are purchasing new items over the holidays, 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]
- White shirt, blouse or polo shirt [white & red polo shirts with the school logo are available]
- Red school sweatshirt with logo [no cardigans please]
- Red and white striped or checked summer dress
- Black, grey, white or red socks or tights as appropriate
- Black flat sensible school shoes [no trainers, pumps or slip on shoes to be worn please]

For PE all children are required to wear the following kit:

- Rushcombe white PE t-shirt with logo
- Rushcombe Red PE shorts
- Plain black trainers or plimsolls can be worn for outdoor PE

Please make sure that all items of clothing are labelled to prevent them from getting lost around the school. In addition, small plain silver or gold stud earrings are the only jewellery allowed. Hair accessories, such as hairbands, should be in appropriate school colours. Thank you for your continued support of the uniform guidelines.

Winter Closures

On rare occasions, especially in winter, there may be a necessity to close the school. We will endeavour to remain open, however, if we have to close the school, please remember that Dorset Education Authority has made arrangements to post announcements on the Local Authority website and with some local radio stations to broadcast emergency closure information. The website announcements can be found at: <http://mapping.dorsetforyou.com/closedservices/schools>. The radio stations are BBC Radio Solent [96.1 or 103.8 FM] and Wave 105 [105.2 FM]. The radio stations have asked schools to remind parents not to phone them directly, but to listen for announcements.

Finally, a reminder that the children will finish on Friday 15th December at 1.00 pm.

Thank you for your support during this busy and exciting period.

Yours sincerely



Mrs C Mahon
Headteacher