Downsell PRIMARY SCHOOL Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

Summer 1 (Newsletter 1)

Monday 25th April 2022

A message from the Head Teacher

Welcome back to the start of the Summer Term!

Once again, we have a very busy and exciting term ahead for our children. As society resumes some type of normality, following on from the pandemic, we would like to seize every available opportunity to continue to provide our children with cultural capital opportunities.

Cultural capital is the accumulation of knowledge, behaviours, and skills that a child can draw upon and which demonstrates their cultural awareness, knowledge and competence; it is one of the key ingredients a pupil will draw upon to be successful in society, their career and the world of work. Cultural Capital allows children, no matter what their starting point in life, to have the desire to aspire to great things and achieve social mobility. It provides children with life experiences, foundations for success and the ability to achieve goals without the need for financial capital or wealth.

We are excited to share with you all, our plan for a whole school cultural capital opportunity. We have set ourselves an ambitious target so that all children can be a part of this and therefore we will be asking for help from our school community and those within the wider community. Please read this newsletter carefully for further details.

Last term our attendance was better than ever. There were so many children who achieved our school target (96%) or above – well done! Let us keep that momentum going and see if we can get better and better.

As you are all aware, safeguarding continues to be paramount in all that we do. We are continually reviewing and revising areas within safeguarding. As part of this, we have made slightly different arrangements to the start and end of day routines. Please read the information in this newsletter carefully so that we can all work together to continue to safeguard our children effectively.

Wishing you all an enjoyable Summer 1 term.

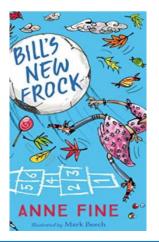
Thank you,

Mr D Chetty Head Teacher

Year Group News

A great start to learning across the school – have a look at what is happening in Year 2 and Year 5.

Year 2 began work on the new class novel for the Summer first half - term this week. 'Bill's New Frock' is a book that challenges young readers to challenge gender stereotypes and makes pupils consider their own perspectives.



Year 5 will be studying the outbreak of the Great Plague in London between 1665-1666, this half term. A massive well done to all the pupils who completed their project homework: creating model plague doctor masks, artwork and researching the topic over the Easter break.







Safeguarding

Mornings

SCHOOL GATES OPEN AT 8.25am

If your child attends breakfast club then they are able to arrive from 7.30am. If you arrive before 7.30am you will need to wait outside with your child until the time. Please press the buzzer and a member of the breakfast club team will allow you to enter.

If you would like to book your child in to attend breakfast club, please do so at the office.

If your child is not in breakfast club and is waiting outside the school gates or has come into the school playground, we will register them for breakfast club for that day and you will be charged for this - £3.

Afternoons

Monday – Wednesday: our school gates will open at 2.50pm.

Thursday and Friday: our school gates will open at 3pm.

If your child has permission to go home alone, then we will be reminding children to ensure they make their way straight home after school. Please support us by doing the same.

The school bell will ring at 3.25pm as a reminder that the school gates will close at 3.30pm.

From this time onwards, you will only be able to access the school premises through the main gate by buzzing in. Again, this is to ensure the continued safety of our children onsite.

Cultural Capital

We are going to the beach!

As part of our cultural capital offer for our children, we are taking children from Reception – Year 6 to Canvey Island Beach! This will take place towards the end of Summer 2 term. We will write to you later on in the term about our plans for Nursery.

Canvey Island is a sandy beach located in the Thames Estuary just off the coast of Essex. From the beach, you get a fine view of the Kent coast and can watch the ships come and go up the Thames.

Canvey Island is about an hour away from school. We will be travelling by coach. The plan for is for each year group to spend the day at the beach, having lunch together and enjoying the experience of being at the seaside.

As you can imagine this is quite an ambitious job, so we will need help from our school and wider community.

First and foremost, we will need support with fundraising. We have a fundraising team at school and they are being supported by our PTA.

We have plans for lots of different fundraising opportunities. These are detailed in our 'Fundraising Menu' overleaf.

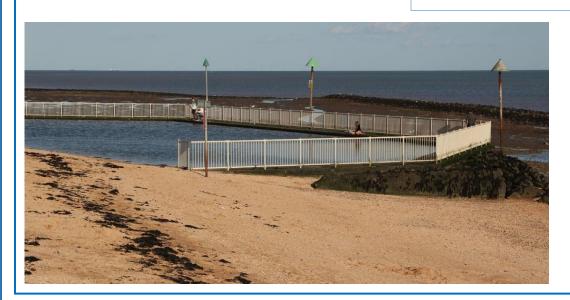


PTA

Our PTA will be working with us to fundraise for this spectacular trip!

If you would like to be involved, please join the PTA this Friday at 9am (in the school hall) to discuss how you could support.





Canvey Island Beach Fundraising Menu



Have a look at our menu of fundraising events taking place to support us in reaching our target. We will confirm the dates and times of some of our events closer to the time.

| Fundraising event | Date / days | Time | Cost |
|---------------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|
| | | Place | |
| Henna | Wednesday 27 th April Thursday 28 th April | From 2pm | £1 (small) |
| | Friday 29 th April | Playground | £2.50 (large) |
| Ice pops | Daily | From 2.50pm | 50p |
| | (starting on Tuesday 26 th April) | Playground | |
| Candy floss | ТВС | From 2.50pm | £1 |
| | | Playground | |
| Popcorn | TBC | From 2.50pm | £1 |
| | | Playground | |
| Bouncy castle | TBC | Playground | 50p for 5 minutes |
| Raffles | TBC | TBC | 50p - £1 |
| Cupcake stall | | Playground | 50p - £1 |
| Portion of chips | TBC | Playground | 50p |
| Chicken Pilau rice | Friday 6 th May | Playground | |
| Rainbow rice | | | |
| BBQ: | Friday 13 th May | Playground | TBC |
| Burgers / Veggie burgers | | | |
| Hot dogs | | | |
| Chips | | | |
| Samosas | | | |
| Vegetable biriyani | Friday 20 th May | Playground | |
| Chick pea chaat | | | |
| BBQ: | Friday 27 th May | Playground | TBC |
| Burgers / Veggie burgers | , | | |
| Hot dogs | | | |
| Chips | | | |
| Film evenings | In year groups after school – | Main hall | £2.50 |
| (ticket, snacks and film) | dates and films TBC | | |
| Staff netball match | TBC | Playground | 50p (ticket) |
| Summer Fair Spectacular | TBC | Playground | TBC |

There will be many more fundraising events for you all to take part in as we go through the term – please continue to look out for further information about these!