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Headteacher: Mrs. Tracy Thomas



Dear Parents,

We are now at the end of the first school term for this academic year. It has been very busy these last few weeks with the Class Outcomes and Christmas performances as well as the SLPA Christmas Fayre. Thank you so much for supporting the school.

Reception 2018 School Applications

If you would like to apply for a Reception place for your child the deadline for this is 15th January 2018. The application must be made through the Hertfordshire County Council website.

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-junior-and-middle-schools/primary-junior-and-middle-school-places.aspx>

Class Outcomes

What a fantastic testament to the children's learning! It was amazing to see all the hard work produced this term in the classrooms and to find out more about the creative skills curriculum the children have been learning. Feedback has shown that the children are confident in talking about their learning and are proud of their work. Thank you to all of you who were able to come and visit the school and be part of the Class Outcomes.

Christmas Performances & MacMillan Charity Collection

Well done to all the children for performing so well during their Christmas performances. The Reception classes' production of 'The Grumpy Sheep' was wonderful and the KS1 Christmas performances were very enjoyable. The KS2 carol concert at Christchurch was splendid and I would like to extend a very BIG thank you to Nicky Footer and Kirsty Allman-Ward from the music service for all of their hard work and for being so flexible when the performances had to re-arranged. Thank you also to all the parents who came along to watch and for your kind donations to the MacMillan charity, a total of £527.69 was collected.



School Uniform

Please ensure your child has a coat with them to wear in school each day. Please label all uniform and coats with your child's name.

Playaloud Parking

We would like to remind parents using Playaloud to please use the upper car park when dropping off children in the morning and to leave the parking bays nearest the school office for staff to park in.

Porch Post Box

Just a reminder that there is a locked post box for you to drop in any letters for the school office in the school entrance porch. This is emptied regularly every day. Please use this if you need to hand anything in whilst the school office is unattended.

British Legion Poppy Appeal



Thank you very much for your contributions with this year's Poppy Appeal; £90.94 was collected for the charity.

Payments to the Office

Please be prompt making any payments due to the school office and have these in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name and class and what the payment is for.

Everbridge School Closure Notification System

As well as using Parentmail, the school also uses the Everbridge system which is the Hertfordshire County Council's School Closure Notification System. It takes 5 minutes to register your details so that you can receive immediate information and updates.

Sign up for Everbridge using this link:

<https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736725489#/login>

Absences

When telephoning the school office to report that your child will be absent from school, please be specific as to the nature of any illness rather than saying a child is unwell.

Music Lessons

Music lessons are available to all pupils in Years 3 – 6 (piano lessons are available for Year 2). The following instruments are taught:

Instrument	Teacher	Cost per school term	Waiting list
Piano	Mr Day	£148.50 individual 20 minute lesson	16
Brass	Mr Robinson	£148.50 individual 20 minute lesson £77.00 3-6 sharing 30 minute group lesson £110.00 2 sharing 30 minute lesson	Spaces available
Viola & Violin	Mrs Morris	£220.00 individual 30 minute lesson £148.50 individual 20 minute lesson £77.00 2 sharing 20 minute lesson £77.00 3-6 sharing 30 minute lesson	10
Cello	Ms Parsons-Gurr	£148.50 individual 20 minute lesson £110.00 2 sharing 30 minute lesson	Spaces available
Guitar	Mr Coulthard	£148.50 individual 20 minute lesson	20
Clarinet, flute & saxophone	Valerie Blake – Musicale*	Please call 01582 713333	Please call 01582 713333

*The school does not hold the waiting list for Musicale please contact them directly.

Shared and group lessons are dependent on other children wanting to share a lesson and also matching ability.

To book on to a waiting list (children in Year 2 may join a waiting list for any instrument to learn in Years 3 -6) please contact Mrs Ferridge in the school office. There is no obligation to take up the music lessons once your name is on the list. Once you get to the top of the list the school office staff will give you a call for you to decide if you would like to proceed with the lessons, if not they will be offered to the next child on the list.

The invoice for the music lessons is sent termly for payment and the lessons are all held during the school day (sometimes before the school day).

Remission of music fees for families on low incomes is available from Hertfordshire County Council simply by calling 0300 1234048.



Parking

Unfortunately within the last week we have had two complaints from local residents. One from a local resident in West Hill and another regarding parking within the private parking area for Bedford Street residents in Gaping Lane. On both these occasions the residents have commented that parents have been rude to them. Please be considerate when parking and do not obstruct driveways or park on double yellow lines or outside the school gate. Please give yourself plenty of time to park and walk. There are still permits available for parking in the Lafarge car park next to Waitrose. Please ask at the school office.

Message from the SLPA

Decorated Cup Competition

A very big WELL DONE to the following children for winning the decorated cup competition:

Jack Porter, Denny Ferraro, Alice Kent, Isabelle Kelly, Tom Clark, Isla Burrows, Edie King, Alexander Gavilanes-Petrik, William Hankin, Sadie Lait, Emma Vipond

Xmas Tree Festival

We are thrilled to announce that Samuel Lucas came 3rd! at the **Xmas Tree Festival**, held on **9th and 10th December**. Thank you to all of you who made decorations in our "Winter Olympic Theme" The tree looked amazing! special thanks to new members of the SLPA Simon Warren and Erica Willoughby who organised this for us and decorated the tree. If you wish to collect your child's decorations they will be in the office porch until the end of term.

SLPA Events...

Film Night - Further to info in the last newsletter we can now confirm we raised **£730.00** at the recent film night - a fabulous amount.

The Samuel Lucas Winter Olympic Fayre - What a brilliant day from start to finish. The choir and open mic performances were amazing, and Santa had a super time meeting all the children in his grotto. We raised in total **£3,326.00** a superb amount. Big thank you to everyone in helped in anyway (being on a stall at the fayre, face painting, rota sorting, working in the kitchen, creating programmes and posters, setting up on Friday 1st and Saturday 2nd and of course clearing away at the end of a long day! Thank you we really appreciate all of your help, we can't do it without your support.

A special BIG thank you also to the fabulous SLPA team (there are not many of us but you know who you are!) you all worked really hard for the last couple of months preparing for this event and gave up many hours of your time to ensure it was a success.

School Disco

We are currently in the process of organising the **School Disco** which takes place on **Friday 2nd February**, look out for letters which will be issued in book bags the first week back in the new year.

Other...

Website:

Our SLPA page on the school website is now updated with blogs regarding our events so please do have a look and read what we have been up to... to access just click on the following link:

<http://samucas.herts.sch.uk/our-community/slpa-blog/>

Meetings:

Our next meeting is on **Monday 15th January 8pm** venue to be confirmed. If you would like to know more about us or want to join us please come along, we always welcome new members.

And Finally...

If you do have any feedback for us or want to know any information about us you can contact us on the following email address: enquiries.slpa@gmail.com.

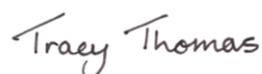
Merry Christmas! The SLPA

Diary Dates

Date	Class	Event	Time
Monday 15 th January 2018	Ash Year 3	Swimming	During school day
Monday 15 th January 2018	ALL WELCOME	SLPA Meeting*	8pm – venue tbc
Tuesday 16 th January 2018	Elm Year 3	Swimming	During school day
Monday 22 nd January 2018	Ash Year 3	Swimming	During school day
Tuesday 23 rd January 2018	Elm Year 3	Swimming	During school day
Monday 29 th January 2018	Ash Year 3	Swimming	During school day
Tuesday 30 th January 2018	Elm Year 3	Swimming	During school day
Friday 2 nd February 2018	ALL	SLPA DISCO	After school tbc
Monday 5 th February 2018	Ash Year 3	Swimming	During school day
Tuesday 6 th February 2018	Elm Year 3	Swimming	During school day
Monday 12 th February 2018	ALL	HALF TERM WEEK	
Monday 19 th February 2018	Ash Year 3	Swimming	During school day
Tuesday 20 th February 2018	Elm Year 3	Swimming	During school day
Wednesday 21 st February 2018	ALL WELCOME	SLPA Meeting*	8pm – venue tbc
Monday 26 th February 2018	Ash Year 3	Swimming	During school day
Tuesday 27 th February 2018	Elm Year 3	Swimming	During school day
Monday 5 th March 2018	Ash Year 3	Swimming	During school day
Tuesday 6 th March 2018	Elm Year 3	Swimming	During school day
Monday 5 th March 2018	Ash Year 3	Swimming	During school day
Tuesday 6 th March 2018	Elm Year 3	Swimming	During school day
Friday 9 th March 2018	ALL WELCOME	SLPA Quiz/Bingo night*	TBC
Monday 12 th March 2018	Ash Year 3	Swimming	During school day
Monday 12 th March 2018	ALL WELCOME	SLPA Meeting*	8pm – venue tbc
Tuesday 13 th March 2018	Elm Year 3	Swimming	During school day
Wednesday 14 th March 2018	Yr2 & Yr6	Parents Evening	5pm – 8pm
Thursday 15 th March 2018	Yr2 & Yr6	Parents Evening	4pm – 7pm
Monday 19 th March 2018	Ash Year 3	Swimming	During school day
Tuesday 20 th March 2018	Elm Year 3	Swimming	During school day
Friday 23 rd March 2018	ALL	Class Group Photos	During school day
Thursday 29 th March 2018	ALL	TERMS ENDS	2pm

I would like to wish you all a very peaceful, restful break and I look forward to seeing you all back at school on the 4th January at 8.45am.

Yours sincerely



Tracy Thomas
Headteacher