

Thursday 3rd January 2019

Dear Parents,

Spring 2019 Newsletter 1

Welcome back, and a Happy New Year to you all.

Parentmail communications

I am delighted that almost all parents are now signed up to Parentmail, and this makes for increased reliability that information reaches you, and also saves us the cost and waste of paper.

We have continued to send printed copy as well whenever there is a slip to return, on the basis that not all homes have a printer. However, many do. We will continue to send hard copy when we need a reply from everyone, for example Parents' Evening and school trips. However, for other optional returns eg clubs or optional meetings, where we currently send out up to 450 hard copies when we only expect about 20 or so returns, we are going to stop this practice and send out Parentmail only. I am hoping that many parents will be able to print a copy at home if required. We will have some copies in the office which you can collect if you need one, or you can phone the office and ask them to send hard copy home in your child's book bag. This will save a huge amount of wasted paper, so I am hoping that it will be a revised practice that will work and thank you in advance for your help with this.

If we find that it creates huge problems, then I will of course re-think it.

School Shoes

I wrote to all parents twice last term about uniform shoes, because of the large number of children who were wearing non-uniform shoes and boots for school. We amended the rules a little to try and be as reasonable as possible:

Shoes must be plain black leather/patent/synthetic leather look. If the shoes have a sport logo, this must be entirely black – no coloured embellishments or white or coloured soles. Fabric trainers and boots of any type (even low level boots) are not part of uniform for indoor wear.

Please be aware that we will start requiring children who are not wearing uniform shoes to change into plain black plimsolls in school. I am aware that children in the upper school often have school shoes at home, which they choose not to wear. I hope that having to put plimsolls on will ensure that they do wear the right shoes. If any parent/carer has difficulty providing uniform shoes, please speak to me or Miss Hester. Occasionally there may be a child with a diagnosed medical condition that requires particular footwear, and this always needs to be raised with Miss Hester or me so that appropriate medical evidence is on record.

Parents' Evenings Spring Term

Please make a note in your diaries that the dates for this are Tuesday 12th February (4pm-7.30pm) and Thursday 14th February (3.30pm-5.00pm). Full information and booking slips will be sent out nearer the time.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs J Witteridge

JW/Letters to parents/newsletters