

St. Mark's Church of England Primary School



10th October 2019

Newsletter 3: Autumn 2019

Dear Parents

School Games Award: Gold

We are delighted to have been awarded Gold for the second year running in the Sainbury's School Games award scheme. Our thanks go to Mrs Paxton for her work in co-ordinating PE and Sport across the school and the extra time she gives to individuals and teams in preparation for festivals and competitions throughout the year.

'Lighting up the Natland Night' and Lantern Workshop

For a number of reasons, we have decided to cancel this year's Lantern events. The lantern making workshop was planned for Saturday 12th October and the 'Lighting up the Natland Night' procession on Friday 15th November. We have run these jointly with Appletree School for a number of years but, together, have made the decision that we wanted to refresh the format and work towards a bigger, better event in the autumn of 2020. ***If any parent would like to be part of the planning committee for next year, please let us know.***

Parents' Forum

A number of parents have expressed interest in being part of this term's Parent Forum to discuss issues related to the curriculum. We are planning to meet on a Wednesday afternoon in November. If any other parents are interested in getting involved, please inform the school office.

Charity Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who organised, baked cakes and joined us for the Macmillan coffee morning events last month. We raised a fantastic £520 for a charity whose work many people have benefitted from over the years and will do in the future.

We can also report that we raised £280.00 for the British Heart Foundation with our skipping in the Jump Rope for Heart fundraising day at the end of the summer term.

Sponsored Staff Hair Cuts

To support Mrs Whittaker, Mrs Hicks has volunteered to have her hair cut very short with the cut hair donated to the Little Princess Trust. We will be asking the school community for sponsorship – look out for further information. We are also looking for volunteers to cut hair – hopefully hairdressers!

Playground Development and PTA fundraising

It has been a long time in the planning but we are now close to the target set of £27,000 for the re-development of the playground. We have a date set later in November for the installation of the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) which will give us a dedicated, fenced area with built in goals and basketball nets. The shelter and playground markings will follow in the new year.

Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard over the last few years to help to plan, design and raise money for this project, particular thanks to the Baldoukie Charitable Trust which recently gave £1500.

In the last few of years Sarah Collin, chair of the PTA, has worked tirelessly to see the project through to completion and we are all indebted to her for her vision, determination and tenacity.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Barfoot
Headteacher

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