



William Gilbert Endowed
(Church of England) *Voluntary Aided*
Primary School
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NEWSLETTER

No. 372

7 October 2009

Dear Parents

HARVEST CELEBRATION REMINDER

Further to Newsletter No. 370 – please remember it is our Harvest Celebration and Worship this Friday 9th October at 9.30am in the school hall, which you are warmly welcome to attend.

All pupils, Nursery to Year 5 are invited to contribute 'in date' non perishable goods, (tinned or packet foods) or toiletries which will be donated to Barnardos. Year 6 pupils are asked to provide a small box containing non perishable foods with fresh fruit & vegetables and if possible a bunch of flowers. Year 6 will deliver their gifts to the residents of St Alkmund's Close.

Please remember to send donated goods in tomorrow, Thursday 8 October and for Year 6 fresh items on Friday 9 October.

PRIZE PUMPKINS

If you are entering the pumpkin competition this year you need to affix a name and class label to your pumpkin and deliver it to the junior department craft area tomorrow, Thursday 8 October, by 9.00am.

Please remember to collect your pumpkin before school closes on Friday 9 October, otherwise they may disappear into the healthy cookery club on Monday.

OPEN EVENING – TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER

A separate letter has informed you of this event. Please return the reply slip as soon as possible. I look forward to seeing you

CLUBS

Unless absent from school, please remember if your child is not attending a club – you should inform the club leader **in writing**. Pupils who have been off school poorly **may not** attend the clubs at the end of the day.

If you have given your child permission to walk home on their own please ensure you return your consent form.

PARKING

I have received numerous complaints from parents and residents about parking and we are only just into the first half term.

Parking on St Alkmunds Close and Vicarage Lane is becoming very problematical again. Residents are rightly complaining about selfish drivers and parking.

I have no desire to spoil the good relationships we share but once again I need to ask you to park away from the school site so as not to cause congestion on Vicarage lane and St Alkmunds Close.

Unfortunately, some parents/carers seem to think this information does not apply to them and continue to drive as close to school as possible. On finding no parking space, or spotting my presence, parents are reversing, double parking, mounting pavements, blocking driveways and the road; all of which are completely unacceptable. Pedestrians, pushchair and wheelchair users are

Similarly parents using King Street/Hazlewood Road are putting lives at risk by manoeuvring cars and almost reversing into our Crossing Patrol Lady.

Last week the Crossing Patrol Supervisor was observing and provided me with a report which was most alarming. During one morning she had observed:-

1. A toddler running down Vicarage lane towards King Street with the parent unaware. Our Crossing Patrol Lady had to leave her position to rescue the toddler.
2. Cars were manoeuvring on King St and almost reversing into our Crossing Patrol Lady and the children waiting with her.
3. A number of cars drove up Vicarage Lane dropped their child at the Infant gate and then reversed back onto King St and nearly into the Crossing Patrol Lady again.
4. Several cars parked on the white lines. It is courtesy **NOT** to park on white lines

If this is you, please reconsider your journey to school and support the safety of everyone.

In school we are trying to educate your children to be polite, considerate citizens; compassionate to those around them. Please support us by modelling this continued education through your parking. The children would be very quick to tell you that you are breaking a golden rule by not considering others.

I would be grateful if you would pass this information to grandparents and carers who may not access this letter directly.

Can I also remind all vehicle drivers that it is unsafe to move cars parked directly outside school until all children have left the immediate area and that we encourage travelling one way along Vicarage Lane, from the Castle Hill end towards King St, not the opposite way

DIARY DATE CHANGES

Now Ecclesbourne have published their dates for the academic year I have had to liaise with them to make changes that would have affected our Year 6 residential and Ecclesbopurne transition visits. As a consequence please note the following changes to the diary dates published earlier:

Monday 14 June – Y6 Manor Adventure departs

Friday 2 July – Junior Sports afternoon

I hope this gives working parents plenty of notice to reschedule their diaries.

Best wishes

S J Whyld

