

“Natter and Chatter”

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Welcome to the final newsletter of this year! The school is now at capacity and we only have one year 11 leaver this year. Good luck to Jake B, on the next stage of his journey.

This also means that we have no space, or need, for changing pupil's classes around for the next academic year.

On the right of this page are some dates for your diary.

Uniform:

From September, top-half uniform, consisting of a t-shirt and/or sweatshirt or hoodie, will also be compulsory for KS3 pupils. The research into wearing school uniform is clear:

“Students experience less pressure in deciding what to wear each morning, which leads to taking less time to get ready...With uniforms, there's decrease in peer pressure to wear trendier (and more expensive) brands. Wearing uniforms enhances school pride, unity and community.”

For those not already aware, Michelle, the school secretary keeps order forms and we will be sending one home for all of Red Class soon. Please note that the 2 items of uniform for each pupil in Green, Blue and Red classes is **not** optional – though there is a good range that can be chosen from: Either a round neck or collared t-shirt and a sweatshirt, hoodie or zip-up for cooler weather. *Make preferences clear on the order form.*

This is for top-half uniform only and something that we feel strongly about. We belong to a community and we are keen to show that. The uniform is strongly subsidized – making it a cost-effective scheme. If your child is in receipt of free school meals (and receives Pupil Premium funding) a certain amount of uniform, per year, is free. If you are not sure please contact the school office.

Our **School Council** have been helping to plan our next fundraising event, for Unicef.

Sponsor forms are coming home for Soccer Aid. We will be having an obstacle course set up for dribbling footballs and a penalty shootout! Please do all you can to support this fantastic charity by getting friends, relatives or neighbours to sponsor your child for the number of times the course is completed.



Dates for your diary

Friday 8th June
Soccer Aid

Wednesday 11th July
Parents Evening

Lower School Summer Trip
Letter to follow

Upper School Summer Trip
Letter to follow

Friday 13th July
School Reports Home

Thursday 19th July
Year 11 leavers

Friday 20th July
Last Day of Summer Term

Tuesday 4th September
Autumn Term begins



Keeping in Touch:

It is essential for the continual wellbeing and consistency of support for our students that we stay in touch with home.

As you know, you can call us, email us, or message us via Bloomz. We still have a few parents that have not signed up to this electronic communication – it is essential that we have everyone available for quick updates in the event of sudden change or urgent information.

Please note that we are soon to be moving over to a new management information system, called **Arbor**. This is partially so that we can be sure we have good, secure, record keeping that complies with the new GDPR laws. However, Arbor also has the capability to have its own parent portal and messaging system. This will be important in the near future as we have been informed that Bloomz will soon be unavailable! We're pretty sure that Arbor won't let us down - more news to follow.

GDPR:

You may well have been bombarded, like all of us here, with emails requesting that you give permission for certain people to remain in touch?! There is a new school policy in place regarding the new GDPR and data protection laws, and there is a letter coming home.

We have taken this new law very seriously and are keen to ensure that we are following all procedures correctly – we have liaised with another local authority and will be adopting their approach to this.

Please ask if you have any queries or would like a copy of the policy.

Behaviour Support:

If you, or a group of you, would like to meet and discuss behaviour strategies, that may be useful at home, or if you feel that some time to sit and share worries or ask questions would be good please let me know. I am happy to set up informal meetings over a cuppa.

Learning Progress:

I have seen some great learning taking place over this term and I have been delighted at some of the progress I am seeing.

Do try to come to the parents evening if you can – it's nice for us to share some of the positive things happening.



Sickness and Absence:

Just a reminder that if your child is not in school due to illness you must let us know on the morning of absence.

As you will know we have had a few cases of Scarlet Fever this last week. There is a really helpful information page here if you are at all worried: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/scarlet-fever/>

There has always been a bit of confusion over cases of vomiting or diarrhoea and the school has an information sheet available with guidelines from the NHS and Public Health England.

“From time to time children are sick (vomit) either at home or at school. Unfortunately it is not possible for any non-medical persons to distinguish between the causes, with any certainty, and therefore it is essential that the same rule of exclusion applies in all cases of vomiting or Diarrhoea...any staff member or child with diarrhoea and/or vomiting symptoms must stay away or be excluded from the school or early years setting until they have been free of symptoms for 48 hours (the ‘48 hour rule’). Personal hygiene must be very strict.”

If you'd like a copy of the leaflet in full please contact the office.

I hope to see some of you on parents evening, in the new half term, but if not have a great Summer break everyone.

Amanda Curry
Headteacher

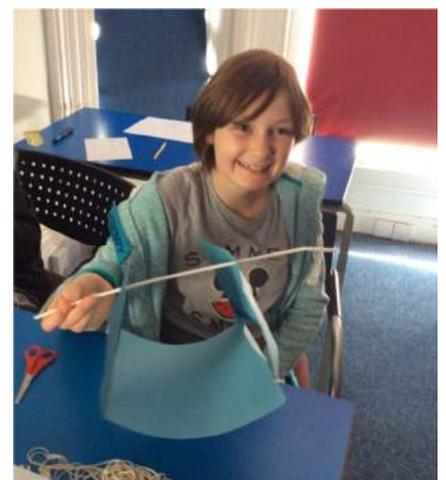
Upper School Updates:

Yellow Class

Yellow class has had a fantastic term, especially since the weather has begun to get better. Pupils have been enjoying getting out in the community to do Forest School and other community trips, such as spending time on the beach and our bi-weekly trips to the library: Students have even begun to take an interest in gripping novels written by ex-SAS soldiers. Yellow Class students have been working hard during our new 'key skills' lessons and each has been making good progress towards their individual targets.

For engineering skills pupils have been experimenting and challenging themselves to build the highest tower with stones and building a stone wall before the tide comes in and washes their work away! Pupils were very engaged during a trip to Plumpton Farm, where pupils received a thorough tour from an expert farmer; who had worked there for many years. Pupils learned about Fair Trade, daily farm routines and even had a go at making flour and flakes from the heads of corn.

A definite highlight from the term so far has been the fast, fun and action-packed sports sessions delivered by Albion in the Community. Pupils had three amazing sessions developing team work, simple ball skills and developing good strategies in competitive activities.



KS4 pupils have also been developing skills in communication. They have been ringing local businesses to enquire about their details and have also been developing their descriptive language by giving instructions to a peer to create Lego model - without seeing the picture or instructions!

Ben Kinslow

Red Class

Red class have been very busy this term and worked hard at building new relationships with classmates. We have been exploring our fascinating topic of *Farming and Fair Trade*. For example, we have looked at the incredible journey our food takes before it gets to our plates. Recently we visited Plumpton College farm. Though sometimes we had to keep our noses covered, it was great both seeing all the animals and turning wheat into flour the old-fashioned way!

During science week we did lots of cross curricular learning and investigated the global plastic crisis and sustainability. Pupils have worked hard creating some fantastic leaflets and writing persuasive pieces as well as doing some cool experiments. At the end of science week some students were kind enough to bring in their pets, where it was beautiful to see our student's caring and compassionate natures.

As the weather has picked up and Spring has joyfully marched into Summer we have made the most of our outside spaces and the local area. The students have been getting hands-on in maths. They have been creating and carrying out surveys on the seafront, confidently and politely quizzing members of the public from the food they like to their favourite films. Well done Red!

Jake Sheffield

Lower School Updates:

Blue Class

Blue class have had a very productive Summer term so far, with the topic *The Great Outdoors*, learning about nature, camping and wildlife. For example, pupils have experimented with different materials from nature to create plaster tiles inspired by the artist 'Andy Goldsworthy.' During design technology lessons they researched, planned, designed and made a model of a playground.

In maths, we have continued to practise our problem-solving skills with addition, subtraction, place value and time. The children have also been exploring 'data handling'; they carried out a data project to see how green Worthing is by collecting, displaying and analysing data. During Forest School they used these skills to find out how old the trees were at Cissbury Ring; the oldest tree was around 124 years old!

We've also enjoyed learning about poetry and over the term have written a variety of different poems to create our own 'great outdoors' poetry book. We have read many different types of poems and books about nature, while we've continued to enjoy our class novel 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.' Blue class have enjoyed lots of practical science activities, learning about shadows and light, they explored how shadows are made and carried out an investigation to record time by creating a sundial. The children became scientists during our exciting science week, they investigated how worms help soil by building a wormery,



experimented with the great egg drop to explore air resistance, generated electricity from a lemon, and combined matter to create CO₂.

Blue class finished this half term with a lovely day of camping at Streamside where they pitched tents, cooked on a campfire, enjoyed some outdoor games and went on an exciting nature trail.

We have an exciting and busy final half-term ahead of us, learning about outdoor festivals and activities as part of our Great Outdoors topic.

Claire Johnson

Green Class

In Green class, we began the summer term with a focus on the polar regions. We found out about the animals that live there and how climate change is impacting on their existence. We had a focus on the book 'Solo' by Paul Geraghty and wrote our own sequels to the story, imagining the adventures Solo the penguin will go on as she takes her first swim in the open ocean.

We have been learning about 'States of Matter' in Science, investigating how solids, liquids and gases are formed and how they can be changed. We have had fun investigating what effects can be created when crayons are heated, and which parts of the classroom will cause water to evaporate the quickest. In Art, we have focussed on the artist Andy Goldsworthy. The pupils have recreated some of his work using a range of materials, including natural materials and clay.

The pupils have designed and made moving boats as part of their DT, using elastic bands and balsa wood to make a mechanism that will propel the boat through the water. We have been learning about the traditions and celebrations of Sikhism, and the pupils particularly enjoyed learning about how children of a similar age practice their religion. In French, the pupils have been learning about Paris, identifying the main landmarks in the city as well as thinking about how Paris is similar and different to where we live.

Chris Allwright

We are all individuals:

Rainbow Room

We love working with the pupils individually; we get to know them all quite well. This term we have welcomed a new student into our room; Harlee.

With the sun at last shining, we have been able to incorporate the outside areas into pupil's learning, which they have clearly enjoyed.

Lots of great learning has taken place, with the students all working towards their individually set targets.

Overall, pupils have demonstrated a good attitude to learning and are managing the many challenges they face very well.

Jo and Aimee

