

# SINGLETON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Headteacher: Mr Christopher Todd MA(Ed)

9<sup>th</sup> September 2016

## Newsletter Number 1

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to school for the new academic year. We hope you had a great summer – many thanks from all the staff for the gifts and good wishes at the end of the last school year – they were much appreciated.

It is great to see the children looking so smart and eager to learn at the start of the school year. We have a number of new pupils joining us this term and we welcome Ivy, Sienna, James, Fynn, Isabelle, Maisy, Eva and Jonah and their families to the school community. Two new members of staff have also joined the school – Mrs Holt as our school bursar and Mrs Gaskin as our Midday Meals Supervisor - and we welcome them to the team. Please bear with Mrs Holt as she gets her ‘feet under the desk’ during these first weeks and months. In other staffing news, Mrs Huxham has decided to focus on raising the new addition to her family so will not be resuming her teaching career at this time – Miss Harrison will continue to take her place in Willow class working, alongside Mrs Ivall.

There is a great deal of information in the newsletter this week. Please read carefully and keep for reference. All newsletters can also be found on our website (address above) and if you wish to receive the newsletter by email please let the office know your address.

### Birthdays

A reminder that children are able to wear their own clothes to school on their birthday. This enables everyone to quickly identify children on their special day, wish them well and celebrate with them. If a birthday falls at the weekend or during a holiday the children may wear their own clothes on the day of their return to school.

### Parent hotline

The parent hotline is a useful means of communication between school and home particularly in the event of school closure due to bad weather, etc. The number to use to listen to messages is 08447 707576 and the School ID is 64518.

### Planners

The children in Beech and Oak class have this week been given their new planner which contains important information, homework details and reading record. Please help your child to ensure that they keep their planner safe and have it in school every day. Replacements will cost £5!!

### Music

Recorder lessons for all Year 2 children with Mrs Nelmes will start on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September. The school has a supply of recorders and books which may be borrowed and returned at the end of the year or, if you wish, your child may bring their own (named) recorder into school. We will be using Recorder Magic Book 1, should anyone wish to obtain their own copy.

### Singleton C.E. School needs your help!

It is a well-established fact that regular reading practice is one of the key ways for children to develop comprehension skills and develop a love of books. Here at Singleton C.E. School we are need of volunteers to come into school on a regular basis to hear children read. We are seeking those who can offer an hour or so a week and the willingness to encourage and support children in their reading. No particular qualifications are needed, apart from the requirement to



undertake a background check and there is no upper age limit. If you are able to offer your help please contact the school. Thank you!

### **Nuts!**

A reminder that packed lunches **should not** contain nut based products as these can adversely affect some pupils. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

### **Child Protection**

The school Child protection policy has recently undergone annual review. It is worth reiterating that the school has a responsibility to contact the local Safeguarding Authority should we have a concern that a child in our care may be subject to neglect. This may be done with or without informing the parent or carer, if it is in the best interests of the child to do so. There is more information regarding the school approach to safeguarding in our Child Protection policy which is available on the school website or by request to the school office.

### **FROGSS (Fundraising Group for Singleton School)**

FROGSS is a charity fund raising committee which organise fun and enjoyable activities for our children as well as social events for their parents in order to raise funds to support the school. We meet on a regular basis to discuss and organise future events as well as having many regular 'helpers' who we rely upon to support our activities. The success of the Friends depends upon the support of the parents. We greatly appreciate any help, so if you would like to become involved please do not hesitate to come along to our first planning meeting of the year – keep an eye on the newsletter for details of when this will take place. In the meantime, remember the **Valley Challenge on Saturday 17th September 2016 from 10am, organised to help raise funds for Friends of Singleton Primary School.** See details below!!

**Dates for the term** - there will be more details about many of the following in separate letters/future newsletters.

Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> Sept 3pm onwards	Parents Open Classroom – this is an informal chance to meet the teacher and answer any questions or queries you may have during these early days of the school year. There is no need to sign up for these meetings which are intended for parents whose child(ren) has a new teacher/class. There will be an opportunity after half term to come in and have a look at work and discuss progress.
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	Valley Challenge - The Valley Challenge (3 peaks/3 pubs!) is an 8.2 mile charity run taking in the 3 villages of East Dean, Charlton and Singleton. The race starts at 10am Saturday 19th September at East Dean Village Hall and all money raised this year will be donated to Singleton School. Volunteer marshals needed – contact the school. Donations of cakes to feed the runners would be gratefully received – please bring into school on Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> September – THANK YOU!!
Week of 19 <sup>th</sup> Sept	After school clubs begin – separate letter sent ( <b>After school football club starts Wed 14<sup>th</sup> Sept</b> )
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sept	Swimming starts for Juniors (Years 3 to 6) – more details to follow
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Macmillan Coffee Afternoon – more details to follow
Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> Oct – 9am	Harvest Service at school
<b>MONDAY 24<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER ~ FRIDAY 28<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER – HALF TERM</b>	
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>END OF TERM</b>
<b><i>TERM DATES FOR 2016~17</i></b>	
<u>Spring term 2017:</u> Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2017 to Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> April 2017 INSET DAYS: Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2017, Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2017 Half term break: Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2017 to Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2017 Easter break: Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2017 to Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2017 <u>Summer term 2017:</u> Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2017 to Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> July 2017 INSET DAYS: Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2017, Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> July 2017 Half term break: Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2017 to Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2017	

If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to speak to us.

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Todd, Headteacher