



Windermere Primary School

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Newsletter 2



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all enjoyed Friday's Cross Country races, if you were able to come along. As always not only were the runners in each race impressive with their speed and determination, but so also were the supporters who ran *again* to accompany the less speedy members of the school.

For those of you who missed the excitement the results were:

Reception – Zaki and La'Shae

KS1 – Maisie (Y1) 2:19 minutes and Nadeem (Y2) 2:05 minutes

Lower KS2 – Jacob (Y4) 4:47 minutes and Chloe (Y4) 5:50 minutes

Upper KS2 – Mack (Y5) 6:37 minutes and Kate (Y6) 7:24 minutes

Herts Air Ambulance

Fortunately the Cross Country passed off without major incident and we were not obliged to call on the services of the Herts Air Ambulance. Last week was their Go Red Week, so after the Cross Country the PTA organised a coffee morning to raise money for them. Thank you to all the parents and carers who baked/sent in a sweet treat for this. The event went very well and raised over £80. However if you missed the opportunity to donate towards this excellent volunteer service, the collecting tin is in the entrance awaiting you.

Harvest Festival

Our next whole school event is the Harvest Festival on this Friday, 3rd October at 9.00 am. Unfortunately we have had to change the date from the one previously advertised – one of the perils of giving so much advance warning! The children have been practising their songs over the past few weeks and the event promises to be as delightful as ever.

We have previously collected food and toiletries for Open Door and last year we asked for monetary donations to purchase our own ShelterBox. This year we are looking at a charity which is a little nearer to home. **The Living Room** in St Albans is a charity which offers therapy and support to individuals and their family members

affected by addiction. Their shopping list is very simple, but gratefully received nonetheless:

- Night lights
- 1st & 2nd class stamps
- Toilet rolls
- Coffee (especially instant de-caff)
- Sugar/sweeteners
- Blackcurrant/orange squash
- Cup-a-soups

Donations can be brought in at any time over the next two weeks.

School Photographer

Unfortunately the school photographer was unable to come into school today due to illness. They have rescheduled for next TUESDAY, 7th October. Siblings under school age are welcome to come along from 8.30am to be photographed with their brothers and sisters.

School Uniform

I know you will all ensure your children are looking smart for their school photograph, but it is important that the children learn to take pride in their appearance every day. I am so pleased to see how many of the juniors have taken to wearing a shirt and tie. They all look so smart and are a real credit to the school.

I do need to remind you though that ties must be worn with a proper shirt and should not be worn with a summer dress or with a polo shirt! Indeed we have now reached the point at which all children should be wearing their winter uniform. This means that girls should now be wearing grey skirts, pinafores or trousers and not gingham (checked) dresses. Pupils in Year 3 will now all be wearing the new winter uniform and not polo shirts.

I have seen some dangly earrings in school – these are not safe for an active school day. Studs only, please!

Coats

Already the days are noticeably cooler and there have been occasional showers. Please ensure your child always brings a coat to school as the weather in the morning may not be the same at lunchtime or home time. If the weather is very wet you may want your child to walk to school in boots (wellingtons or similar waterproof boots, not Ugg boots) but they will need a change of shoes for in school.

Cauliflower Cards

It seems way too early to be thinking about Christmas cards! However if they are to be printed and sent back by the beginning of December, we must do so. Many of you will have already received your child's fantastic design for a card (not necessarily Christmas!), if you would like this to be made into a pack of cards then please return the form together with a cheque (or cash) made payable to Windermere Primary School, no later than MONDAY 6th October. The artwork is being collected by courier so we cannot accept late orders.

Medicines

Thank you to all the parents who came into school to check that their child's medicines are up to date.

Punctuality

Punctuality is an important life skill which children learn from an early age. Arriving late can be stressful for children because everyone else has already started the lesson whilst they are still sorting out coats, bags and lunches. If your primary age child is late, **you** are responsible for explaining why. They must not be sent into school unaccompanied.

Unfortunately some parents are regularly late in collecting their children from school at the end of the day, without prior arrangement. Whilst we understand that there will be **occasional** hold-ups, these should not be regular. We are not a child-minding service and after the children have left at the end of the day, all the staff are busy in meetings, training or preparing for the following day. Parents who are regularly late in collecting their children at the end of the day or after school clubs, may find themselves charged this inconvenience.

Dog Mess

Unfortunately not every dog owner is as responsible as we would like. Ever since the side entrance for KS2 was installed we have struggled with people allowing their dogs to foul the grass (and sometimes tarmac) near the gate. Please take care in that area and if you see anyone failing to clean up after their dog, please remind them politely that they need to do so.

Mrs. D. Raftery
Headteacher