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Headteacher: Mr L Coles BEd(Hons) MEd NPQH

Newsletter No 3

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Green Cards – the class that won the most Green Cards this week for good deeds, outstanding behaviour and academic prowess, and will therefore have a non-uniform day next Friday, 29th September, is Aspen Class. Well done to them all.

Attendance – winners of the Smith Cup for the best attendance record for last week are Oak Class, not quite 100%, but close – Congratulations.

Open Afternoons – it was lovely to see so many parents coming along for the Year 4 and Year 5 Open Afternoons today. We hope that you enjoyed your tour of the classroom and hearing all about what the children have been doing in class so far this term. Many thanks for the really supportive feedback that you have already given, both verbally and via email – it is really appreciated, and will be shared with staff involved.

Year 3 – our Year 3 classes are looking forward to welcoming their parents to an Open Afternoon next Friday, 29th September.

Year 6 – similarly, our Year 6s are also looking forward to their parents coming in on Friday 16th October.

Year 6 – Osmington Bay – we are still awaiting some final payments for this trip. If you have received a chaser from us, then please bring the outstanding amount into us on Monday at the latest – the trip starts next Friday.

Year 6 – Osmington Bay – Friday Lunches – lunch time will remain as normal next Friday, so please make your usual Friday arrangements. If you are sending your child in with a packed lunch, may we suggest a disposable bag so that they don't have to take a lunch box all the way to Osmington Bay and back, or worse still, leave it festering at school over the weekend.

After School Clubs -

We are sorry to hear there has been a little disappointed this term, some of our clubs have filled up very quickly. We are also sorry to hear that some of the club information hasn't reached everyone, especially our new Year 3s. We have spent time this week going through as many of our pupil records as we can to ensure that email addresses are up to date, and will continue to do so until all pupils have been checked – if you do change any contact details, please do let us know as soon as possible. In clubs where there is a limit on the number of children that can been accommodated we do have to work on a first come, first served basis, but we keep a note of the reserve list and offer places out as they become available.

Go Active Archery Club – this club became full exceptionally quickly, proving it's popularity, and so Mr Williams is arranging for the equipment to be available to us again, either in Terms 2 or 3. We will, of course, let you know as soon as this club is available again and will be offering it to those who weren't able to secure a place this term, first.

Spanish - there are still some spaces available in Spanish Club, if your child is interested in joining this club please email us, or pop into reception to collect an application letter. Spanish Club is available to all years.

Tennis— we are attaching again a copy of the letter sent out this week about the opportunity to join an after school club at Salisbury Tennis Club. Please let us know by Monday if your child would like to take part, we will need to let the Tennis Club have numbers. This club is also offered to all years, and all abilities.

Choir – apologies for the false start this week, choir will start, properly, on Tuesday 10th October. It is available to all years and Mr Bunn welcomes large numbers, the more voices the merrier.

Year 5/6 Girls Cricket – has been cancelled due to lack of interest.

Watch This Space – we are hoping to offer some new clubs next term, and have a few ideas bubbling away. If you have any suggestions, please do let us know – especially if you have contacts or are able to hep run the club.

Please see the updated timetable attached with this newsletter.

School Lunches – if you have received a debt letter from our lovely ladies in the kitchen, please do arrange to bring payment in as a matter of urgency. We already have a large debt accruing and it's only week 4. If you have submitted an application for Free School Meals, please continue to pay until you have received confirmation of your entitlement. A reminder that lunches are £2 per child per day.

HSA AGM – the Harnham Schools Association met last night and it sounds like it was a very positive, and busy, evening. Watch this space for lots of HSA news and events information. Speaking of which

Cheese and Wine Social – Reminder – the HSA are pleased to announce that, following the success of last year's event, they are planning another Cheese and Wine night with live music on Friday 13th October 8-10pm in the Infant's School Hall. Save the date in your diaries, tickets will be on sale in September.

A few reminders about the School Day:

The Start of the School Day — as you no doubt remember from the letter sent out at the end of last year, we now start each day a little differently. Our playground is open from 8.30am every day and, with the help of Mrs Carlton, Miss Fletcher and myself, children are encouraged to go straight through to class so that they can say good morning and have time to settle before lessons start. Just to be clear, the children will still enter School through the playground, where we ask you to say goodbye to them, so that they can go independently into class. For everyone's safety and security, only the children and authorised members of staff are allowed within the School buildings — other than the foyer. If you have a message for the class-teacher you can, of course, leave it with us in the playground, or pop round to the office. At the end of the school day — the children will be brought out onto the playground at 3.15pm by their class teachers who will make sure that they can see you are there to collect. If you have made other arrangements for your child to be collected, please do let us know. If your child is in Year 6 and you would like them to start making their own way home, or part way home, we do need those instructions from you in writing.

What to do if you are late – please bring your child to the School Office to sign them in. If they are not signed in with the school office, and the register has already been taken, you will receive an absence text asking you to contact us. Just to be as clear as we can, 'late' means after 8.40am. Any child(ren) arriving after this time will receive a late mark in the register.

Visitors in School – please do pop in to the office if you need to see us, for whatever reason, we are always happy to have visitors.

Road Safety and Parking – however you travel to school, please remember to do so safely, and with the welfare of others in mind. Entry by car to Saxon Road, Hollows Close, and Folkestone Road, is for permit holders only. Even our permit holders are asked not to drive on these roads at the busy morning drop off, and afternoon pick up times. As access to these roads is not permitted, parking on these roads is absolutely not permitted. We know that this means that the Parsonage Green and Old Blandford Road areas become very busy during the school run so please do be mindful of others when parking. Remember that there is parking available in the St Georges Hall car park, just off Lower Street, and the cricket field car park, opposite the bottom of Saxon Road.

On a final note, please do pop in and let us know if you hear of anyone who is not receiving the newsletter, or encourage them to pop in and see us. We do do our best to make sure we have the right details for everyone, but we are not immune to system glitches and human error.

Good Luck to all taking part in the 11 Plus - rest well this evening, and do your best tomorrow.

With Kind Regards

Mr L Coles Headteacher