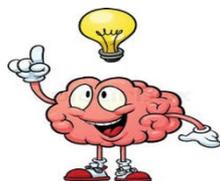




Dear Parents and Carers



I hope that you all had a relaxing and an enjoyable break and you are ready for an exciting new school year. It was wonderful to see all of the children looking so smart and enthusiastic and full of excitement for the year ahead. This term is jam packed with activities and events so I will make sure that I keep regular updates in the newsletter.



This week and next week we are learning about our brains. Understanding how our brains work, how we learn and how we can develop our learning skills is enormously important in helping children to achieve their full potential. All the children have been exploring how important exercise, drinking water, getting enough sleep and making healthy eating choices is in helping their brain to work. We have also introduced thinking skills and found out how we can develop our learning skills. We will be developing these skills across the school year.

On **Monday 16th October** we will have a stay and play session where you will be able to see what your child has been learning and join in some activities with them.

Today we had our welcome service in church and all of our new starters were formally welcomed to the Smallwood Community. Special events like these are hugely important because they help us to remember that being part of Smallwood is so much more than just being a member of the school. We are incredibly lucky to belong to such a strong and cohesive community. Since I have started here it has amazed me how caring the Smallwood family is and how far it stretches beyond the school gates. Smallwood is a very special place to be, let us hope we can keep it growing and flourishing by embracing new members and working together to help it to thrive.



Coming soon

Next Saturday is Smallwood Village Fete

Smallwood Village Fete will be held on Saturday 16th September at Overton Green Farm by kind permission of Mr Len Ford & Family. The fun begins 12pm - 6pm, Admission £2 Adults, Children Free. As last year there will be Market Stalls, Games, BBQ, Raffle, Entertainment, Giant Sandpit, Climbing Wall, Carousel, Giant Inflatable Slide, Refreshments, Cakes, Bar, Family Tug of War and much, much more. We just need to hope for last year's weather. Entrance to the fete will be behind the church.

The Big Village Bake Off, Under 11's - Best Decorated Cup Cake, Over 11's - Best Sponge Cake, £1 per entry, Entries to be received by 1.30pm at the fete, Judging at 3pm.

Fun Dog Show - 'Have a go agility' £1.00 for 3 attempts plus free entry to the agility class.

Classes: (Registration from 1pm, £1 per class) 2.00pm Waggiest tail, 2.15pm Best junior handler (under 16), 2.30pm Best trick/command, 2.45pm Best dressed, 3pm Golden oldie (over 8 years), 3.30pm Marvellous male, 3.45pm Beautiful bitch, 4.00pm Best at agility, 4.15pm Judges favourite, 4.30pm Best in Show.

Please would any parents, friends or pupils willing to make or donate cakes to be sold for the fair bring them into school on Friday 15th September.

The PTFA always do a fabulous job serving drinks and cakes, this stall is always very busy and hugely popular. We desperately need your support Please would anyone able to give an hour of their time to help on the cake and drink stall please speak to me or a member of the PTFA.

School photos take place on Friday 22nd September.

Harvest Festival—Sunday 24th September at 6pm in St Johns Church, this is a main Christian festival at the beginning of the year and is one that along with Christmas and Easter as a Church School we support. We would love all the children and their parents to join us at this special event, if we are lucky this may be preceded by a tractor ride around the village.

This year harvest baskets will not automatically be distributed around the village, but if you know anyone who would appreciate a basket, please contact Daphne Ford 01477 500301 or Julie Bracegirdle 07966429798.

Half the harvest baskets this year will be donated to the New Life Church food bank, the other half will be sold at the harvest supper with donations going to Smallwood Church and Rose Queen charity.

The Harvest Supper will be on Monday 25th September at 6.30pm in Smallwood Village Hall. Adults £6 Children £3. To reserve tickets please contact Daphne Ford 01477 500301, Julie Bracegirdle 07966429798 or School Office. This will be followed by our usual sale of harvest produce.



School Lunches

We have started back the new term on Week 2 of the menu which is different than the dates specified on the menu. Next week will be Week 3.

School Meals cost £2.30 for pupils in Oak, Beech and Hazel Classes. This can be paid for via ParentPay (if you do not have your log in details or have lost them then ask at the office), by cheque payable to Smallwood Primary Academy or Cash in a named sealed envelope.

If you would like to pay in advance then this half term meals cost £75.90 per child (33 x £2.30), please note if you pay in advance and your child misses a lunch then this will remain as a credit on their account.

CLUBS WILL START WEEK COMMENCING

18TH SEPTEMBER THE NEW FORM WILL BE SENT OUT NEXT WEEK.

Although Music Club will commence next week Tuesday 12th September until 4.30pm.

And ASM Football Club will commence on Monday 11th September

Beat the Bugs

If your child has been sick or had diarrhoea they must be kept off for a minimum of 48 hours.

We have had a number of children who have returned to school before the 48 hour, www.nhs.uk, recommended period. Please do not send them back until they have had a clear 48 hours. We have seen an increase in sickness and diarrhoea over the past couple of weeks.

Please remember to ring into school before 9.15am if your child is absent

The Smallwood Fete takes place Saturday 16th September. Smallwood parents and teachers will be supporting the refreshment stall and need your help.

If anyone is available and can offer an hour of their time to serve on the stall please contact Lynn Booth on 07789 692727.

If anyone is able to donate any cakes for sale (home or shop bought) please drop at school on Friday 15th or drop at the stall by 12 on Saturday.