

Great Addington CE Primary School

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Newsletter 2

Friday 15th September 2023

A brilliant start to the term!

During this first full week of the September term we have welcomed our new Reception cohort. The children have all settled into their new school routine brilliantly and have been busy making, drawing, creating and exploring in Deene class areas.

Since the children returned last Wednesday, I've seen smiling faces come through the school gates, pleased to be here and happy to see their friends and teachers. In every classroom, the atmosphere is productive, calm and there is a real buzz of positivity around the building. On the playground, children are cooperating and playing together - older children are looking after younger children and all year groups have settled into their new lunchtime and class routines. We have welcomed many visitors from our PDET trust and Governors within these first weeks, all whom have commented on the children's behaviour, engagement and of course our freshly renovated learning environments. What a great start to the school year.

School Value

This half-term, we are celebrating our school value of 'RESPECT'.

Amongst many others, Leila was awarded a Values Certificate in our Celebration Assembly this week. Well done Leila.



The school day – a quick reminder

Thank you for your patience throughout these first weeks of term. The children have settled brilliantly and adapted to the new routines:

- 8:00am early access club
- 8:35am front gate and classroom doors open, 8:45am gate closed.
- At the end of the school day, please stand on the playground where you can be seen by your class-teacher. Over time, I'm sure you will all find 'your spot' and we will get used to where you are, but in the meantime, make yourself visible whilst we all get used to our new doors, exits and playground.

Class Do-Jo

Please ensure that you have signed-up to your class Do-Jo. Your class teacher will be using Do-Jo to communicate with you at home. Thank you if you are already signed up.



Absences

If you need to take your child out of school during school hours for any reason, please may you complete an 'Exceptional Circumstances Form' available from the school office. If you could please do this prior to the time you are collecting your child so that we are aware (pop into the school office the morning of/day before etc)

Thank you for coming to school in PE kit on your PE days. A quick reminder:

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EYFS (Deene) - Friday (PR Sports)
KS1 (Lilford) - Wednesday (teacher led) and Thursday (PR Sports)
LKS2 (Lamport) - Monday (teacher led) and Thursday (PR Sports)
UKS2 (Rockingham) - Thursday (swimming) and Friday (PR Sports)
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Parking

Since the start of term the school has been contacted by members of the local community and parents about the parking during drop off and pick up times. Whilst we fully appreciate how difficult parking for the school is, there have been several cases where vehicles have been parked illegally and potentially dangerous to other road users and pedestrians. As a reminder, there is **no** parking at all on the zig-zags outside of school. Only blue-badge holders are to park on the double yellow lines, but the badge must be displayed and visible.

Parking is permitted along the road where markings indicate, but please be considerate to residents and their driveways, pedestrians and always leave access for emergency vehicles other people parking.

If the parking problems persist the school will be requesting the support of the police and the local traffic enforcement officers as the safety of our pupils is foremost. Again, we fully appreciate frustrations with parking around our village school and hope we can work together as a school community going forward with this matter. Many thanks for your continued cooperation with this.



Walk-in-Wednesdays

We would like to invite you to join us for 'Walk in Wednesdays' where we will welcome you into your child's classroom for a short time at the end of the school day. These 'Wednesdays' will each have a different focus (reading, maths etc) but each will give your child the opportunity to show you what they have been learning about, where they spend their days, chat with your child's class teacher/s and enjoy time together in an informal way in the classroom. Keep an eye on the newsletter/ school website for updates for when the next 'Walk-in-Wednesday' will be.

Our first Walk-in-Wednesday will be on **Wednesday 20th Sept** and it's focus will be '*Come on in and see our new school environment'*.

Child Information

The start of the new school year provides us with a good opportunity to update important information for the children. Next week, a photo-permission form will be sent home. If you could please complete this form and send it back to the office by the end of next week, it would be very much appreciated. I would love to share photos on our newsletters of children in their learning environments!

Many thanks.

Lucy Kingsnorth, Principal