



Theme for next week : Nelson Mandela

Head's Message

Dear Parents,

As I sit and write these newsletters, it is always my intention to contribute constructively and to focus on the positives. This week, it has been more difficult to do this as I am receiving a number of complaints from residents in our local area regarding our parents' lack of consideration around parking. When challenged on this, some of our parents are choosing to respond inappropriately, even if they have parked inconsiderately. As a School, we endeavour to foster a positive relationship with our neighbours and will always investigate any concerns they raise. Since the start of term, I have had to respond to a significant number of complaints, all of which takes time. At present, my time would be better spent ensuring that our School runs safely and effectively, rather than having to deal with complaints which our neighbours should have no reason to make. We should respect our neighbours who have every right to access their driveways, flats or homes. In winter, being respectful should also include switching your engines off and not leaving them running which causes unnecessary pollution.

Residents from Chartwell Court have recently contacted us as they are incredibly concerned about the irresponsible way the parents of St Aubyn's School are parking. As well as being unhappy that people park in the grounds of Chartwell Court which is for residents only, they are also leaving very little space for residents to drive into the entrance of the flats. Going forward, the residents are going to begin documenting registration numbers. This is not an isolated incident; similar concerns have been raised by residents in Forest Approach, who report that parents often park across their driveways. It has also been an ongoing issue in the Roses. Once again, I ask that our parents consider the feelings of our neighbours and act more responsibly. Please be respectful as this is a quality we are always encouraging in your children.

I also take this opportunity to remind you that it is essential for you to keep your distance from each other outside the gate. Please do not congregate to chat. This is something we are inclined to do naturally, but we have to be mindful of our responsibility to protect each other and do everything in our power to keep safe. We must all do our little bit to prevent the spread of the virus so that the children can attend school which is clearly beneficial for them. Having asked parents to control their children's desire to play with children outside their year group in the Pre Prep playground, we are subsequently informed that "we will just do it outside the gate." This is simply irresponsible. Children are in Year group bubbles for a reason as we try to limit the spread of a disease. The current infection rate is rising and the potential for a second wave is looking increasingly likely. Everyone is tired of COVID, but it is in everyone's interest to adhere to the guidance so we avoid being subject to further lockdown measures.

On a more positive note, thank you for standing on your spots to keep your distance when collecting your child and for adhering to correct drop off times. Please keep this up, even when the weather changes and it begins to get darker and wetter.

Finally, St. Aubyn's is holding a virtual Open Day on Saturday, 26 September. Please tell your family and friends about this event. Further information is available on the School's website.

Enjoy the weekend.

Sincerely,

Leonard Blom

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

-Nelson Mandela-



After learning about jungle animals last week, the children in Year 1 have started making a jungle out of a shoebox. Here is 1MD working hard at creating their trees.



The Blue Peter Sports Badge deadline is fast approaching. The focus this year is on trying a new way to get active. This could be a new sport in your garden, learning a new skill like skipping or football tricks. Perhaps pupils have been doing exercise classes at home or tried a new style of dance? For further information on how to apply go to <https://childrens-binary.files.bbci.co.uk/childrens-binarystore/cbbc/bp-Sport-badge-form-2020.pdf>



Year 2 have been busy exploring what it means to be kind. In small groups, they thought of ways that they could be helpful and support one another in the playground. They used the stage in the secret playground to perform their role plays to the rest of the class. Ideas included assisting someone who has fallen over and



asking someone who is alone to play with them. There were some excellent, thoughtful performances!



Year 5 boys warmed up for Games this week with ball mastery skills. Mr Shute performed a drag-back and the boys put the skill into practice.



There has been plenty of noise in music lessons this week! Pupils in Year 3 have had great fun using percussion instruments and glockenspiels. It has been lovely to bring music back into the School.



Year 2 pupils have been studying the work of Paul Klee. In particular, they have been looking at his application of straight and curved lines, abstract ideas and colour. They created these wonderful pictures using pastels and a blue paint wash. I think you will agree that they make a stunning classroom display!



This week, Year 7 enjoyed an ICT lesson on e-safety. An important module at the beginning of each school year, the pupils learn how to keep themselves safe on the internet on a variety of devices.

This week in Drama, Year 4 continued to explore mime by interacting with imaginary objects. They have been developing their performance skills with a focus on precision and exaggerated facial expressions. They had

Pupils may have spotted Miss Cook or Mrs Anthony wheeling their trolley around school since the start of term. This is because the Library has gone mobile for all of those classes not visiting it at the moment. Our Librarians have been pleased to see that pupils are still enthusiastic about reading wherever they are!



to use their imagination to picture what might be behind a pretend door. Some of their ideas were very amusing!



Year 5 pupils have been making wooden frames in preparation for creating string art. They have been measuring, sawing and joining wood and using a butt joint to create a square, wooden frame. It's great to get back to some practical work!



Congratulations to these pupils who were awarded a Headmaster's Commendation this week.

In Games this week, Year 3 girls took part in a 60 second star jump challenge. All years groups are taking part in a challenge each week to try and achieve Bronze, Silver or Gold.



Chigwell School is holding their Virtual Open Day on Saturday, 26 September. Please see their website for further information as details are to be confirmed.

Park School for Girls is holding a Virtual Open Evening on Tuesday, 29 September at 6pm. Please book your place by visiting their website.

Queenswood School is holding a Virtual Open Morning on Saturday, 26 September. Booking can be made by visiting their website.