



Chestnut Lane School

**Chestnut Lane School**

105 Chestnut Lane

Amersham

HP6 6EF

**Telephone:** 01494 727415

**Facsimile:** 01494 725969

**Email:** [office@chestnutlane.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@chestnutlane.bucks.sch.uk)

**Website:** <http://chestnutlane.bucks.sch.uk>

**Headteacher:** Christine Plimsaul Cert Ed NPQH

September 2016

Dear Parents

Welcome back to a new year at Chestnut Lane School and a particularly warm welcome to all our new families who have joined us this term. Our new pupils have settled in very quickly and I am sure they will have a happy time in their new classes.

### **Staff**

As you are aware Miss Catie Vacher and Mrs Sandeep Sanghera have joined our teaching team in Early Years, and Mrs Sarah Sagar has joined our office team.

In addition, I am pleased to let you know that an experienced teacher Mrs Louise Naidoo is joining us, along with a graduate trainee teacher Miss Henna Burkhari. You may well see Mrs Naidoo or Miss Burkhari with your children as they will work alongside class teachers across the school.

### **Topic Meetings (20 – 23 September)**

Each year group is holding a topic meeting this week to let you know about the topics this term as well as the routines of the week. They will start at 9am. We hope that you will be able to come to the meeting.

Year 1 – 20 September

Year 2 – 21 September

Reception – 23 September

### **Fundraising**

Later this term Mrs Gossage has volunteered to work in an orphanage in Thailand. We are very keen to support her work and would like to raise some money for medical supplies which are in short supply for these children. Therefore we are planning to hold a 'First Aid' day at school and would ask if there are any parents who are doctors or nurses and who would be prepared to help us teach the children some basic bandages and first aid. We would then ask the children to make a donation to this worthy cause.

If you are able to help please email the office – we would like to hold the event on 30 September.

### **Braiswick Photographers (17 October)**

On Monday 17 October, Braiswick Photographers will be visiting the school to take individual photographs of all the children. Any siblings will be automatically paired up for a joint photograph. Purchase of the photographs is entirely optional.

If you have pre-school children and would like to have a photo of them with their school aged sibling(s) please come, altogether, to school from 8.15am onwards. You will be given a numbered ticket and photographs will be taken on a first come first served basis. Once you have had your photograph taken, please take your children to their classroom.

### ***Elmtree Infant and Nursery School***

I am pleased to be continuing to assist Elmtree School as their Interim Executive Headteacher this term.

### ***Medical Needs***

Please make sure that you inform the school if your child has any medical needs. If they have any allergies or require medication such as an inhaler or Epi-pen please ask at the office for a health care form.

If your child **already** has a health care plan it is important that you review it annually at the school office to ensure we have the correct information. It is the parent's responsibility to check expiry dates on any medication such as inhalers and Epi-pens held in school.

### ***Emailing Parents***

As you are aware we use email as our preferred method of communicating with families (unless there is a form to be returned to us). Currently we email one person, the primary contact, for each family. If you are interested in your second contact receiving all school emails as well, please email the school office confirming the name of the second contact and their email address.

### ***Home-School Agreements***

Over the next week or so you will receive a Home-School Agreement for you and your child, via the bookbag. This is an important document outlining our commitment to you and yours to us. Please discuss the contents of the agreement with your child and then complete and return it to the school office.

### ***Packed Lunches and Snacks***

As we have several children who are allergic to nuts we have a **No Nuts** policy in school. Please do not send any foods in lunchboxes containing nuts. If midday supervisors find foods containing nuts they will return them un-opened in the box.

### ***Diarrhoea and Vomiting***

Please keep your child at home for 48 hours after any bout of diarrhoea or vomiting. Bugs can spread very quickly and it is advised that 48 hours absence means that the risk of passing this on to others is significantly reduced. We really appreciate your help in this matter.

### ***School's Website - [chestnutlane.bucks.sch.uk](http://chestnutlane.bucks.sch.uk)***

If you have not had a look at our website, please do. You can find information about most things on there including; clubs start and end dates, term dates, diary dates, copies of letters sent home, school uniform, free hot school meals, class topics etc.

### ***Read-ins***

Read-ins take place in each classroom on Friday mornings from 8.40 – 9.00am. Parents are invited to read with their children in the class. Siblings can read together in whichever class you choose. Please note though that school still starts at 8.50 and children arriving for school after the bell has gone are officially late.

### ***Bikes and Scooters***

It is lovely to see so many children coming to school on their bikes and scooters. Please remember that the quad area is a no bikes and scooters zone, the only exception being for disabled access. Please also remind your children to use the bike lane along the drive and watch out for toddlers!! Bikes and scooters can be left in the scooter park at the back of the car park (at owner's risk). Any scooters found hanging on the fences will be removed and taken to the scooter park.

### **PTA CLESA**

The PTA, otherwise known as CLESA (Chestnut Lane & Elangeni Schools Association) are holding their AGM on Tuesday, 4th October here at Chestnut Lane School from 7.30 – 8pm. The AGM will last for just half an hour and will then be followed by a classical music concert (8 – 9pm). Attendance at the AGM is free and then please see the flyers being emailed for details of tickets for the concert. All parents are automatically members of the association and everyone is welcome to attend the meeting. The PTA has helped the school enormously over the years and this is a good opportunity to learn more about the events and activities planned for this year.

### **Facebook**

The PTA has its own Facebook page. This is a closed group and only parents from either school are able to join. By joining you will keep up to date with all the great fundraising events that the PTA organise. You can share ideas, ask questions or see how you can get involved!

You will need to own a Facebook account to be able to join, and if you find you are having problems finding it, either use the Contact Us section on the school's website asking to join, or ask another parent who is already a member of this group to invite you to join.

### **Pupil Premium**

If you receive benefits such as income support or child tax credit you may be entitled to register for Pupil Premium. The school receives an additional £1300 for each pupil registered. This important funding is spent directly on benefiting your child. If you think you may be eligible to register for Pupil Premium please talk to the office staff to collect a form.

### **Points to Note**

- The Elangeni gates are for the security and privacy of their school. Opening times between the schools can be found on the gates. At other times please use the main entrance on Chestnut Lane.
- Only guide dogs are allowed on the school premises.
- Please park considerately on the roads around Chestnut Lane and Elangeni Schools.

*C Plimsaul*

Headteacher

