# This Week's News

14th May 2024



www.parley.dorset.sch.uk



### Head Teacher Update

I hope that you have all had a good week. It has been great to be able to get outside and use the field at last. It really hasn't had the use it should have at all this year, but I am hoping it will for the next five weeks at least. It has been another good week in school this week and the children (and adults) have been working really hard. As you know, we have been working through standardized national testing this week with our Year 1 and Year 4 children and they have really tried hard, which is all we can ask for. The results of these tests will be reported to you formally.

Thank you to everyone who has bought tickets for the Circus and offered to help volunteer at the event. We have also held the Wrapping Room again this week for Father's Day which we hope the children enjoyed. We try to be sensitive to the needs of all children as not all families are the same in anyway shape or form, so there is no expectation at all and we aim to keep it as subtle as we can, as we do for Mother's Day.

Last week, I put a paragraph in about taking videos and pictures in school. We take our security very seriously. I had an occasion where a parent entered the building following an after school club and was walking around the school. Although we obviously welcome parents in to the school, I do not want people who are not signed in to the premises walking around, unless it is part of an Open Afternoon. This is for fire safety reasons and for security. If you do need to come back into school at the end of the day, please come to the main entrance where you can be signed in if needed. Thank you very much.

I have seen a slight rise in the number of children (boys in particular) wearing bands around their heads in the style of footballer Jack Grealish. I have no problem with the boys who have longer hair tying their hair back, but most of these children have short hair and don't need them, and so are using them as a fashion accessory. They also pose a safety risk in my opinion as a choking device as they don't have a snap device on them like our lanyards. I am sure I sound like an old kill joy, but I want standards of uniform to remain high, with the children looking smart and ready to learn at Parley as well as being safe! They are more than welcome to wear these when they are not in uniform.

It sounds like I am moaning far too much this week so I want to finish on a more positive note by how proud I was of all the children in a number of different whole school assemblies lately. They are incredibly respectful and well behaved children who are able to ask and answer questions accurately.

I am not actually in school today because I have been attending the National School Leadership Conference for the last two days in Birmingham which has been inspirational and gives me the chance to reflect on how we can further develop Parley.

Thank you for all of your support. If you do have any constructive feedback, I am always willing to listen to it and consider how it can improve the school. I do try to be out on the playground as much as I can, but tend to stand on the Key Stage 2 playground as I feel that everyone passes through or should be passing through that one. Have a good weekend.

#### Mr Bagwell - Headteacher

## **Diary Dates**

Sat 22nd Ju	ın	Happy's Circus
Fri 28th Ju	n	Transfer Day
Fri 5th July		Parley Pentathlon
Wed 10th .	Jul	Year 4 Leavers Performance for parents 2-3pm
Thurs 11th	Jul	Open Afternoon 3.15 - 4.00pm
Wed 17th .	Jul	Year 4 Leavers Party 4.30-6pm (more details next term)

#### Link to Key Dates

### **Deadlines**

Breakfast & After School Club bookings must be made on ParentMail <u>7 days before the</u> <u>date you wish to book</u>.

Please ensure bookings are made in advance to avoid disappointment.

#### School Attendance

Whole School - 94.5% YR - 93.0% Y1 - 94.8% Y2 - 95.3% Y3 - 95.1% Y4 - 95.1% The school day begins at **8.45am.** 

Gates open at 8.30am

## **Staying Safe Online**

Please read the following message from Mr Bagwell:

I really worry about our generation of children sometimes, especially when it comes to their exposure to content online or even on televisions. I believe very strongly that children should be protected from this content for as long as we can. I appreciate that technology is a huge part of children's lives, but I would always encourage you to check the setting very regularly and to monitor what your children are accessing, especially on YouTube. However, I would also advise that certain toys of characters from films that are rated 12+ are readily available even in places like Smyths Toy Store which I think is ridiculous as children of 5 find it incredibly difficult to separate fact and fiction sometimes. I can only advise you as parents and hope that you will take this advice. Thank you very much for your support with this.

#### **Pen Recycling**

As a school, we have managed to collect 15.5kg of pens to send away to Ellie's Fund, a charity for children with brain tumours. Below is the message we received last time we donated:

"Ellie's Fund would be delighted if you could let your Eco Council, and everybody else involved, know that we are extremely grateful for their help and support. Every used writing instrument that is received by the depot raises roughly a penny, and we don't every penny of this to research into brain tumours."

We will continue to save any pens that do not work so we can hopefully send off the maximum weight of 20kg by the end of term! If you have any pens at home which no longer work, you can bring them to the recycling box situated just inside the main entrance next to the school office. Thank you for helping us to support this worthwhile cause.

### Gymnastics for Reception & Year 1

Mrs Mansbridge runs Gymnastics Club, in school every Tuesday after school during term time. There are spaces for children in Reception and Year 1, if your child would like to join Gymnastics please contact Jo via the details on our website.

https://www.parley.dorset.sch.uk/parents/extra-curricular-clubs/

### Calendar Dates

We have noticed a website error this week on our calendar dates for next year. Please may we ask all parents to check the website again as there was an error on one of the INSET Days for next year. All dates are now correct. Thank you very much and apologies for any confusion caused.

### **Lost Property**

Due to the vast amount of lost property in school, there will now be a lost property bin placed on each playground at the end of each day (depending on weather). If your child has lost something, please check the bins. We are seeing an increasing number of lost items. Please can we remind all parents once again to **ensure children's belongings are clearly named**. As always, all unclaimed items will be taken to the recycling bank at the end of each half term / term.

#### **Open Afternoon**

The next Open Afternoon will take place on **Thursday 11th July**, 3.15 - 4.00pm. This is another opportunity to come into school and see your child's learning space and school work.

## **Community News**

