



JOHN PERRY PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHARLES ROAD, DAGENHAM
Essex
RM10 8UR

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Head Teacher: Mr W. Pedro

4 November 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to welcome you back to the start of the second half of the Autumn term. I hope you and all the children have had a lovely break.

Safeguarding throughout the school

You will have noticed that we are continuing our efforts to make our school a safe and secure place for all our children, parents and visitors. We have noticed that the school is often used as a cut-through from Charles Road to Western Avenue. This places the safety of children, staff, parents and carers at risk. To make the school even more safe and secure, we have introduced several measures. The main gate to the school will be closed at all times. The pedestrian gate at Charles Road and Western Avenue will be on an automatic time release. It will be opened in the morning between 08:30 – 09:15 and in the afternoon between 14:45 – 16:45. Parents using the breakfast club will gain access by using the electronic intercom at the main and pedestrian gates.

Please do not drive into the car park. Only parents and carers who have mobility difficulties, or who have children with mobility difficulties, will be allowed access to the car park. Parents who have children with special educational needs, where the child's safety could be compromised, will be allowed access to the car park. This will be done on a case-by-case basis. **We ask you to please help us keep all our children safe by not driving into the school car park.**

Healthy Lifestyle

We would like to thank all parents and carers for their support in encouraging children to adopt a healthier lifestyle. A topic on the news yesterday was the unveiling of the government's plan to cut childhood obesity. The government plan is to get the food and drink industry to cut 20% of the sugar in products popular with children in an effort to reduce the high increase in childhood obesity across the country. The plan calls on primary schools to promote healthy lifestyles and ensure that children are following a healthy eating plan. At John Perry, prior to this announcement, we have already started our Healthy Lifestyle campaign. As mentioned in my previous newsletter, we have replaced school dinners high in fats and sugars with healthy alternatives. Please have a look at our new healthy menu at the office and on the school website. We kindly remind parents that sweets, crisps, chocolates, fizzy drinks or drinks and foods high in sugars and fats are not allowed in children's packed lunches. These items will be removed from packed lunches and given to parents with a reminder letter at the end of the day. I'm sure you will support the school in our efforts to promote good eating habits and adopt a healthy lifestyle. Please do not hesitate to make an appointment to speak with Mrs Cross or the Head Teacher should your child have a medical diagnosed eating disorder. Being a 'fussy eater' is not a medical condition. We need to encourage our children to make healthy choices. These choices will have an impact on the health and well-being into adulthood.

School Vision

Staff and Governors have been working together to develop the school vision and ethos. The school council have been meeting to come up with a school motto. We will inform you of these developments as they proceed.

Parent Governors

We would like to welcome Mrs Jennings and Ms Syeda as our newly elected Parent Governors. Both governors attended their first Governing Board meeting yesterday. Parent governors represent the views of you the parents and carers. They play an important role in holding school leaders to account for the leadership and management of the school. We wish them well in their new positions.

School Uniform

We would like to remind parents and carers to ensure that children are dressed in the correct school uniform. Please check at the office if you are unsure of the school uniform. The school uniform can also be found on the school website. If your child has outgrown their school uniform and it is in good condition, please donate it to the school. We can make good use of it.

Children in Need

On Friday, 18th November, we will be supporting the Children in Need charity. This year the theme is Pirates. We will be asking children and staff to support this fundraiser by coming to school dressed as a pirate. We hope to see lots of fantastic costumes in support of this worthy charity.

Class Newsletters

Please see your child's class newsletter which informs you of the learning that they will be doing this half term. It also includes PE and Swim dates and dates for Class Sharing Assemblies.

We will send out reminders closer to the time with dates and times of events we have planned for this half term. Please see the newsletter sent out on the last day of the summer term with dates of all the events leading up to Christmas.

Yours sincerely,

Mr W Pedro

Head Teacher