

Tree Tops Primary Academy Newsletter

8th September 2017



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a busy and exciting start to the year at Tree Tops.

We all hope that you have had a super summer, and that you all have the most successful year to date. Our main aim is to enable your child to achieve their very best this year, and we will do this by focusing on three important things:

Consistency

We will ensure that our teaching offers your child a really high standard every day in each class.

Challenge

We will extend your child's thinking and help them achieve better and more quickly.

Collaboration and Celebration

We will share information with you to help your child learn; and celebrate their success. We will use opportunities in the community and join with other schools to do this.

We Need You!

To achieve our goals, we need your help! This year, please could you ensure that you:



- **Read with your child every day.**
- **Talk to them about their homework, ensure they complete it and return to school on time.**
- **Ensure that they are ready for EVERY lesson, bringing in PE kit, correct uniform and footwear.**

Gorgeous Gardening



You know that I am passionate about outdoor learning and our wonderful (growing) gardens! I am so grateful to families who have not only been attending our gardening club, but watering and weeding right through the summer too!



We are so proud to now be harvesting some of our produce, and this week to have had a lovely chard lunch provided by Olive Dining. The children enjoyed trying this healthy leafy and cheap vegetable! Try it at home!

Wash and roughly chop leaves.
Add to stir fry 2 mins before
the vegetables are ready.
Let the leaves wilt as you stir.
Taste!

Chard Recipes

Wash and roughly chop leaves.
Chop and fry an onion.
Add 500g frozen peas and ½ l stock.
Bring to the boil.
When peas are ready, stir in chard leaves and stir.
Whizz up with a hand whisk. Eat with soup pasta.



**Do come and join
Gardening Club @ 5pm
Thursdays!**

Super Sunday

Please join us for a **free Sunday morning gardening event on SUNDAY 15TH OCTOBER.** We will plant bulbs, harvest crops, clear and weed together. Please come along from 9.30am to 11.30am. Free snacks, tea and coffee etc will be provided.



LET'S GET GROWING!!



Fit Fridays

These popular events will continue this year, so please make sure your child wears sensible footwear like trainers every Friday.

School Lunches

There has been a slight increase in cost from September to £2.25 per meal for a child in KS2. Don't forget to talk the office if you receive any benefits, as you may be able to get your child's lunch and school milk for free.



Important Notice re: Safety at Home time

It is essential that if your child is Year 5 or younger, they are escorted home by an adult as we all want to keep the children safe as they leave Tree Tops at the end of the day and walk home.

If your child is Year 6 and you wish for them to walk home alone, please ensure that permission is given to the office in writing.

Meet the Teachers

We are holding brief meetings for you to meet your new teachers and find out about the expectations for the year, and the exciting learning opportunities coming up. We will be sending a letter out at the beginning of next week to confirm times and dates.

Please sign in at the office for all these meetings.



Harvest Assembly and Harvest Supper Friday 29th September

We would like to invite you to our Harvest assembly at 2.30pm, and then afterwards we would love to share some of our home grown produce with a simple harvest supper.

The assembly will take place in the Woodlands Hall (EYFS and KS1 building), so please come into school through the Furfield Close entrance by the Discovery Centre.

We would greatly appreciate donations of cakes, which we will serve with teas and coffees and a contribution towards making a Harvest Hamper for the Porchlight Charity. Many thanks.



Clubs

We are intending to run a really rich range of new clubs for the children this year, and we are going to start these very soon. Lunchtime clubs will be open to relevant year groups and children can register for these in school. For the after school clubs will send letters home for you to sign up to next week. It is important for the children to commit to clubs, if they are chosen to attend.



Open Mornings for Reception Class for next September 2018

9.30 am on Tuesday 19th September, Thursday 28th September or Tuesday 3rd October.

Online applications for children due to start primary school next September 2018 are open on the Kent County Council website from 6th November 2017 until 15th January 2018.

NO SMOKING

Please can I kindly request that parents do not smoke and stub out cigarettes just by the school gates. This simple ask will make a real difference for the children and non-smokers coming in and out of this gate, and for the way we want to present our school to visitors.

Many thanks



Behaviour and Rewards at Tree Tops



We are continuing to use the really successful Class Dojo system to celebrate the children's achievements this school year. We have reviewed the Behaviour Policy, and have a more simple way for children to be invited to reward events that run once a term:

In class they have a Behaviour board, and the children work to 'keep on green'. If they go on to the red 2 x within a day, then their name is recorded. If their name is recorded 3 times, then they will miss the reward event. Any questions regarding our new system then please do ask.

Parent Friends Association (PTA)

This is everyone at Tree Tops! We have a small, but really hard-working PTA and this helps organise all the reward events for the children: the Christmas Fair, parties for the children during the year. If you can offer any help, either on the day or before e.g. asking in the local community for raffle prizes, then please could you talk to Zoe Hilden or see our ladies in the office!
Thank you!

Other Important Dates for the Diary

27th September – Kittle Photographers to take individual photos + brothers/sisters.

13th October Reward Disco

23rd October to Friday 3rd November School closed for half-term

7th November Fireworks school lunch

11th November Remembrance event

13th November Anti-bullying week

17th November Children in Need

23rd November Reward Disco

13th December EYFS play, 14th December KS1 play,

15th December KS2 carols with families and Christmas Fair

19th December Christmas jumper day with Christmas school lunch

20th December end of term Christmas holidays.

Kind regards, Steph Guthrie PRINCIPAL