

# **PRINCIPALS NEWSLETTER - NO. 52**

**14<sup>th</sup> December 2016**



## **REMEMBER - CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY ON FRIDAY - £1 TO BE GIVEN IN FOR SAVE THE CHILDREN**

**Important notice - Will parents of children who attend Wake up Club please note that this finishes this Friday**

### **Admissions**

We are proposing to make a change in our policies for admissions into nursery and reception and are therefore entering into a period of consultation.

The change in each policy is the insertion of a criterion which will allow the academy, under certain circumstances, to give a higher priority to the children of staff members. We wish to do this in order to be able to retain staff members with young children whose child-care issues would force them to leave and work closer to home, were those children not able to come to Eastcote. Many schools and academies have made this change over the past year for the same reason. It will enable us to keep high quality teachers at a time when schools are struggling to recruit.

The proposed new admissions policies can be found via the web site we and would ask for any responses to be sent to the academy by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017.

### **Keeping Children Safe on-line**

Miss Jones recently sent out a letter inviting parents to take part in e-safety parent awareness training here at the academy. I would like to stress just how important this matter is for all parents, and ask you to sign up for it.

I have to say that I have become increasingly concerned by the frequent reports we see in the media of children who have suffered in one way or another as a result of something happening on-line whether it's cyber-bullying, being exposed to inappropriate content or something even more sinister. As a parent, I know how hard it is to keep up with the pace of technological development and the dangers that result from this.

I believe that the training will put you in a much better position to keep your children safe. Please take advantage of this opportunity.

### **Reading**

Our new homework policy, designed to encourage more reading, is beginning to show evidence of the desired impact. We are seeing signs of accelerated progress in some of our reading assessments which we believe are due to children spending more time reading at home.

Our trial of the new homework policy will come to an end next term and we invite parents to send in their comments. These will be taken into account when we make a decision as to whether to make the change permanent either as it has been trialed or after having been "tweaked" in the light of feedback.

### **Sport**

The first team were involved in a football tournament at "Goals" in Bexleyheath on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> and gave a very good account of themselves. Winning three of their games and losing one, they ended up tying on points but were placed second on goal difference – one more goal scored or one fewer conceded and they would have won the tournament!

Congratulations to the team, Gerard Ouedraogo, Jamie Gibson, Jake Collins, Jayden Palmer, Freddie Jolly, Jake Sawyer, Taye Collins and Lewis Hazell.

## **Mrs Chu**

I am sorry to say that Mrs Chu will be leaving at the end of this term for personal reasons. I am sure that parents would like to join me in thanking her for all she has contributed to Eastcote and in wishing her well for the future.

## **Big thank you....**

To Mr and Mrs Williams for beautiful trees they donated both for the hall and for outside and also to all our families who came to see the children's Christmas performances – together you raised a magnificent £415.70 for us to give to Save the Children charity.

