



Dear Parents and Guardians

We hope you all have a very enjoyable Easter, and that the lovely Spring weather continues. We'd really like to make a plea, especially as the summer is now approaching, that next term we have less issues with car-parking. Those who live in Swansley Lane in Cambourne and those in Egremont Road in Hardwick have continued to draw our attention to inconsiderate parking. We know some of you have to travel a distance to school but many live in walking/biking/scootering distance. We have a simply huge car park in Cambourne but are staggered that it's already at capacity, and there is ample car-parking by the sports and social club in Hardwick just a two minute walk up Egremont Road for those of you travelling from other villages to Hardwick who really have no other alternative. We look forward to welcoming everyone back when the new school term starts on **Tuesday 18th April**, with as many of you coming on foot as possible!

With this letter there is also attached a letter from the PTA with details of the new online ordering system for school uniform, huge thanks for all the time invested in sorting this out! We are sure it will make the system much easier for everyone.

Mr Matthews and Mrs French

Nursery News

Nursery have had a great half term learning all about Our Bodies, Spring and Easter. We made a new friend in George the school skeleton, who helped us understand a lot about how our bodies work. The children have also created some wonderful Easter egg designs and have made a little bunny head which they planted some cress in to take home and see how it grows. Red Nose day was also a great day. All the children looked really good in their red clothing- thanks to everyone who donated some money too. Next term brings in some more new starters. The taster sessions have all gone really well and we look forward to having them join us properly next term. Have a nice Easter everyone!

Reception news.

In Reception this half term we have been learning about people who help us. We had a shock when we discovered Burglar Bill had been in our classrooms! This led to some fantastic descriptions of Burglar Bill and lots of very engaged children investigating the crime through role play. In maths we have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes and investigating their properties. We have continued to learn our teen numbers, as well as practising our doubling and halving skills. Thank you to all who attended our Mother's Day afternoon- we hope you enjoyed being pampered and looked after by your lovely children! Next term we will be learning about 'growing'. The children can't wait to pull their wellies on to get gardening! Thank you to all parents who are checking the learning platform which is updated weekly on a Friday. There are lots of ideas to help you support your child's learning at home. Happy Easter!

Year 1/2 news

This half term has been a real blast for Year 1/2! The children have thoroughly enjoyed their superhero topic and all the different and exciting activities involved. This half term we have been writing our own superhero short stories, inspired by the book 'Elliot Jones: Midnight Superhero' which the children have enjoyed learning and performing with actions. We have also been inspired by Roy Lichtenstein in art, creating some effective comic book explosions as well as designing our very own superhero masks. The end to our topic was celebrated by superb superhero days this week. Thank you for being so resourceful with the children's superhero outfits; they all looked amazing! We loved having you in to share our brilliant work and performances with you and hope you enjoyed seeing what we have been up to this half term. We are also delighted to have two trainee teachers working in our team next term, Miss Goodhall is working in Mrs Samuel's class and Miss Eppel is with Miss Eadon.



We are now looking forward to next half term and our new topic, where we will be learning all about Roald Dahl and his stories. We hope you and your children have a well-earned, relaxing rest over the holiday but please continue to read, practice spellings and number facts with your children over the Easter holidays!

Year 3/4 news

What a fantastic half term we have had in Year 3/4! Thank you to everyone for their help and support in putting together The Lion King performances on both sites. We're sure you'll agree the children were incredible. We were all completely blown away by what a super job the children did with regards to the singing, dancing and acting and how fantastic their masks and costumes looked. In addition to our performances, the children have had a great time learning about the characters and setting of The Lion King and producing some really descriptive writing. We are looking forward to next term, with our first topic being the Roman Empire, where we will be delving in to the past to explore what life was like for The Romans. We will be looking at the destruction of Pompeii and the rise of Boudicca to stimulate our writing. Mrs Chambers' class are also excited to have a trainee teacher, Mrs Davidson, who will be with us until June. Thank you for all your support in helping your child create their grammar games. We hope they dazzled you with their excellent technical knowledge and vocabulary. No formal homework has been set for the holidays but we would be grateful if you could encourage your child to keep reading and learning their number facts. We have set challenges for the children to complete on SumDog if they would like.

Mrs Chambers would be grateful if children on the Cambourne Campus could collect newspaper, cardboard boxes and 500ml drink bottles ready for a Golden Morning activity after the Easter break.



Year 5/6 news

We have had a very busy and enjoyable term learning about Tomorrow's World. The children have responded with great enthusiasm to the topic. They have learned a great deal about environmental issues and how their input can protect the future of the planet. Steve Gaze came in to visit us as part of our RE learning. The children prepared some challenging questions for him about his beliefs, life and faith. All of the Year 5/6 pupils made a super effort to support and join in with Red Nose Day. We were totally immersed in red-ness! Over the Easter holidays, please could you encourage and support your children to keep up their skills by reading every day, practising spellings, times tables and completing all homework given to the best of their ability. SATs will take place during the week at you beginning 8th May. It is important that the children are well-rested from the previous weekend so that they can do the best they can in these tests. We will be in touch with more information about Hilltop nearer the time. Please do keep an eye on Its Learning for further information, too. May we also remind you that Bikeability (Y6s) is the week after SATs. Please could you ensure your child's bike is the right size for them, is roadworthy and that they have their own well-fitting helmet. Next term, our topic is Islamic Civilisation and with Hilltop, Bikeability and the end of year production as well, it will definitely be a very busy and exciting term.

Wishing you a very happy Easter holiday.

The Y5/6 Team

Dinner Money

The cost of school dinners for next half term is as follows

<u>Daily</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Half Term</u>
£2.25	£11.25	£63

We would be grateful if you could ensure any outstanding dinner money for this term is settled up and ensure that all dinners are paid for in advance next term.

Ethics Council News

Waste Week 2017 - Up-Cycling Competition

Thank you to all the children who supported our Up-cycling Waste Week and especially those who took part in our Up-Cycling competition. We were amazed by both the number of entries and the innovative designs and are pleased to announce the winners in Hardwick as: KS1- Lucas Parsons in Reception, Y3/4 - Tilly Sadler in Year 4 and Y5/6 - Izzy Mulderij - Year 5. They each received a pencil case recycled from an old tyre, a ruler made from old packaging and a pencil made from possibly a yoghurt pot! Our Runners-Up were: Amelie in Reception and Charlise de Jong in Year 6 who each received a ruler. At Cambourne the winners were Aadi Gandhi, Dylan Lawrence and Lara Ward.

Red Nose Day 2017



A huge thank you to everyone who took part in and donated towards our Red Nose day fundraiser last Friday. We raised the impressive amount of £874.79 across both the Hardwick and Cambourne campuses which is a brilliant achievement. The children made such a fantastic effort to dress up in red and the lucky winners who were picked out to gunge Mr Matthews at Hardwick, were - Felix Martin in Year 3 and Jack Smith in Year 6. Both boys got to tip a bowl of pink gunge over Mr Matthews' head, which they both seemed to enjoy and did rather well at! The children at Cambourne made sure that Mrs French didn't miss out on the fun - she was gunged by Lacey Nash, Mason Slater, Ashdon Waugh and Ellie Fudge. Thank you again for all your generous donations and effort with your children - they did look amazing!



Diary Dates for next term

April

Tuesday 18th Term starts
26th -28th Y4 to Grafham Water

May

Monday 1st May Day
8th—11th Y6 SATs week

Half Term

29th May—2nd June

June 5th

Training Day—School closed

28th—30th

Y6 to Hilltop

July

6th and 7th Y6 transition days
Saturday 8th Carnival

End of Term

Friday 21st July

Somewhere in here we will also fit more trips, a Y5/6 production, reports, class lists, new intake evenings for next year's Reception classes, and a lot more! Please look out for more dates being added as the term progresses.

8.50 Drop off session at the Hardwick Site

As a small group of children travel to school via several taxis we do provide an adult to look after them from **8.50** in the morning. However, more and more children are being dropped off, or just left in the car park well before the start of the school day. Please do not assume you can leave your children here without prior arrangement.

Book Fair

Thank you all for supporting the school book fair and for your generous book donations. Sales from the Fair generated a fabulous £1161.73 in commission for us.

Hardwick Mums and Toddlers

This community group at Hardwick has been running for many years, but membership is gradually dropping and the group would love some more members. They meet in the community room at Hardwick on Friday afternoons for games, fun activities for the children and mutual company! You can find more details about the group on the Hardwick Facebook page and in Hardwick Happenings.

Coding Club

The electronics and programming after school club has been running very successfully at the Cambourne campus. Over 40 children have enjoyed scratch projects and are looking forward to making Wacky Racers and Kodu games next term. The club has raised funds that have been invested into geared motors, push buttons and ultrasonic sensors to work with the Crumble control boards. Many thanks to our wonderful parents helpers, we'd love some more though so do contact Mr G if you are interested and can help regularly.

A Fund-Raising Message from St Mary's

Easter Saturday 'Walk-run-cycle'

Walk run or cycle with others, from Great St Mary's church in the centre of town to St Mary's church in Hardwick. Get yourself sponsored and have some fun with your family
Thirty five thousand pounds is the figure which has been raised so far towards a new community hall behind St Mary's. The hall is going to be great; you'll be able to hire it for birthday parties, meetings and so on, as well as the garden area (and camp fire area) where we have the Summer afternoons café at St. Mary's. So get involved on the 15th of April (Easter Saturday) in this event to raise some more money for the hall. It is a sponsored walk, run, cycle from Great St Mary's Church in the centre of Cambridge, back to Hardwick. There are interesting interpretations of the event: one eight year old is 'scootering' all the way and one two year old is being pushed in her push chair by her Dad (running all the way). When we get back to St Mary's we are having a camp fire and a barbecue and there will be some great live music. Walkers leave Cambridge at 10.30; Runners leave at 11.00; Cyclists leave at 11.30. Barbecue 1pm. Entry forms and more details from Peter on pccornwell@icloud.com

Parental conduct on the school grounds

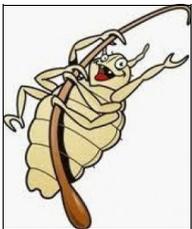
We, as head teachers, and the governing body have always encouraged close links with parents and an open door policy for parental communication. We believe that pupils benefit when the relationship between home and school is a close and positive one. We are also thankful that the vast majority of parents, carers and others visiting our school are fantastic in helping us engender this happy and collaborative spirit within the school.

However, over the last term there has been a number of occasions, at both Hardwick and Cambourne on which the conduct of some parents has not been appropriate. This has led to some complaints from other parents and staff, who have either been spoken to inappropriately, or who have witnessed unacceptable behaviour from other parents. On a few occasions this has resulted in aggression, verbal and or physical abuse towards members of school staff or members of the wider school community, and in many cases has been conducted in the presence of small children.

The governing body expects and requires its members of staff to behave professionally in these difficult situations and attempt to defuse the situations where possible, seeking the involvement, as appropriate, of other colleagues. However, all members of staff have the right to work without fear of violence and abuse and all parents should equally have the right to bring their children to school without fear of similar abuse.

We expect parents and other visitors to behave in a reasonable way towards each other and members of school staff. This is so important, in a place where we are trying to instill in your children the positive behaviours to which we should all be aspiring.

We are raising this issue with you all now as we've not experience the frequency of such issues in our 12 years of leading this school, and we're very keen that the school continues to be a happy and safe place for all members of its community. We do have a Parental Behaviour Policy, which has been placed on the Its Learning parent area for you to read, should you wish to refer to it. We've never needed to action any of it in the past and our sincere hope is that we won't have to in the future.



And finally....

No end of term letter is complete unless we mention little bloodsuckers. We can only get rid of them if EVERYONE takes this seriously. Please do everything you can to help us all, please check and treat your children's hair. It's not as exciting as an Easter Egg hunt to track them down but you could treat yourself to a little mini egg for every one you annihilate...

