



## Weekly Notices – 3

### Parking

**Berry Close** – We have had a complaint from the residents of Berry Close saying that our parents/carers are parking in their private spaces and are then being rude when they are being asked to move their cars. Please be considerate of our neighbours when parking before and after school to collect your child/children.

**Parking/driving up School Lane** - Please be considerate of our neighbours when parking before and after school to collect your child/children. **Please follow the Highway Code and remember not to park on double yellow lines or zig zag white lines.** School Lane is for access for parents/carers who have been issued a permit (even when it is wet).



### Individual Photographs – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September

Yellow photographers will be in school to take children's individual photographs. If this is a day that your child has PE, they need to come to school wearing full school uniform and bring their PE kit with them to change into.

### Reading volunteers



We are looking for more parents, carers and family members to join our team of wonderful reading volunteers this year.

If you are able to offer a little time each week to come and listen to some of our children read, we'd love to hear from you.

Fill in the Google form below and we'll be in touch.

<https://forms.gle/GsxN7J8tZ6Bm4sTi7>

### Fidget Toys

We would like to request that children do not bring fidget toys into school. They can be a distraction in class with some children bringing in a selection of fidget toys that are being shared round their peers and being taken outside at break/lunch times. For the majority of children, these are not needed in the classroom and, as the name suggests, they are used mainly as toys and are not supporting concentration or focus.

### Fidget Tools

In school, there will be a very small number of children who have been identified as requiring a small fidget tool or other strategy to help them concentrate and regulate themselves better. These children are known to the SENCO and the school will provide something if required which best meets their need. We use specific fidgets as recommended by occupational therapists and they are used as a 'tool' to support sensory regulation. If they don't appear to be supporting the child then another strategy will be used. Teachers also use a range of strategies to support regulation such as giving the class a 'moving minute' or a 'mindful minute' when needed from our Trick Box programme. Thank you for your support on this.

### **Aspens Lunches**

Aspens would like to thank everyone who has booked a lunch so far on returning to school. As a reminder, lunches need to be booked by 8.30am each morning. If your child does not have a lunch the office will make contact with you to request a packed lunch is brought in. If you no longer require a lunch that you have booked this also needs to be cancelled by yourself by 8.30am.

Aspens are hosting a theme day event on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September, please find the attached the menu for this day which is available now to book via <https://select.aspens-services.com/> If you have not set up your child's Aspens account and need their code, please contact the office via [admin@freegrounds-jun.hants.sch.uk](mailto:admin@freegrounds-jun.hants.sch.uk)

### **Wessex Shoebox Appeal**

Once again, this year we are pleased to be supporting the Wessex Rotary Shoebox appeal. To make the filled boxes easier to pack and ship to those in need we have been given boxes for you to fill should you want to join the appeal. These boxes are available from reception. Each box costs just £2 to send which you will need to sellotape to the top of the box. A leaflet is attached which all the information you need to fill the box correctly.

Boxes will be collected from school on **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October**, your filled box will need to be **brought to reception at drop off on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October** and not before as we do not have space in school to store them.

### **Supporting DKMS**

One of our pupils has been diagnosed with Aplastic Anemia (bone marrow failure), unfortunately there is currently no perfect match worldwide on the donor register to treat their diagnosis. As a school we would like to help spread the word for the need of more blood and bone marrow donors. Please click the links below for more information.

<https://www.blood.co.uk/>

<https://www.dkms.org.uk/>

### **Jewellery Reminder**

- No jewellery should be worn in school unless there are particular religious or cultural reasons, this includes bracelets that may have been worn over the summer, children will be asked to remove them.
- Children with pierced ears need to wear **small studs only** and these will need to be removed or covered over with micropore tape during PE lessons.
- Make-up, nail varnish and fake tattoos are not allowed.
- Watches are allowed.

### **Water Bottles**

Please can you ensure your child comes to school each day with a reusable water bottle that is of average size. We have seen some large water bottles in school this week and unfortunately, they do not fit into the carriers

### **Coats**

Children will still play outside during break and lunchtimes in light rain so please ensure your child has a coat in school every day.

### **Sickness and Diarrhoea**

We have seen an increase in sickness and diarrhoea in the school recently. If your child becomes unwell with sickness and/or diarrhoea they cannot return to school until 48 hours has passed since their last episode of illness, unless the office has medical evidence confirming an earlier return. Although we understand this can be frustrating as your child may otherwise seem well it is essential to help prevent outbreaks spreading through classes.

### **After School Clubs – Available to book for the autumn Term**

We have a variety of after school clubs available to book, please click the following link on our website for more information and to sign up.

<https://www.freegrounds-jun.hants.sch.uk/page/?title=Clubs&pid=86>

### **Inset Days For 2024/2025**

Our inset days for the next academic year 2024/2025 are

Monday 2nd September 2024

Friday 11th October 2024

Friday 29th November 2024

Friday 14th February 2025

Friday 20th June 2025

### **Breaktime Snacks**

Within our school, we aim to promote healthy eating and we would like to take this opportunity to remind our parents and carers that following are not permitted as a break time snack:

- crisps
- sweets
- chocolate biscuits
- nuts

Examples of snacks that can be eaten at break time:

- Any choice of fruit
- Any vegetable i.e, carrot sticks, cucumber, pepper sticks
- breadsticks, crackers or rice cakes
- cereal bars

We do not want children to be eating their lunch at break time. Please provide your child with an additional break time snack. If you have any queries, please speak to your child's class teacher.

### **PE Days**

Please ensure you send your child to school in the correct PE uniform consisting of black bottoms (girls shorts can be a cycling short but not a hot pant style of short), a white round neck t-shirt, a black or green jumper and proper sports trainers.

Oak class - Thursday and Friday

Elm class - Monday and Thursday

Ash class - Tuesday and Thursday

Beech class - Monday and Wednesday

Pine class - Monday and Wednesday

Cedar class - Tuesday and Thursday

Willow class - Monday and Thursday

Larch class - Monday and Tuesday

Year 6 will only have one PE lesson a week due to bikeability this term

Sycamore class - Thursday

Juniper class - Tuesday

Hawthorn - Friday

### **Absence During School Time**

We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers who wish to take their child out of school during the school term that an absence request form needs to be completed and given to the office before the absence. Requests cannot always be authorised; however, they are looked at on a case-by-case basis. It is important that we as a school know where children are each day that they are absent for safeguarding reasons, as well as to monitor each child's attendance and their sickness and absence records.

If a child is absent from school for sickness immediately before or after a holiday absence you will be asked to provide confirmation of your holiday dates to ensure the correct processes have been followed. If we have reason to suspect that you have taken an unauthorised absence, we will continue to follow Hampshire County Council's procedures of a warning letter, followed by a Fixed Penalty Notice. Please read our attendance policy which can be found on our website for more information.

### **Dogs on School Site**

We would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents, carers and visitors to our school that dogs are not allowed on site.

### **Health & Safety**

Please can we remind all parents we are a **NUT FREE** school, this includes spreads in sandwiches, for example, **Nutella** and snack bars that the children bring in at break time. There are children in school with severe nut allergies so we ask that you ensure everyone in your family who makes packed lunches are aware.



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### **Social Media links**

<https://www.facebook.com/freegroundsjuniorschool>

<https://twitter.com/freegroundsjun>

<https://www.instagram.com/freegroundsjun/>

Friends of Freegrounds Junior School Facebook group -

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/960606647304903/>

### **Diary Dates**

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September – Year 6 residential to Little Canada, drop off at 8am

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September – Year 6 return from Little Canada, pick up approx. 4pm

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September - Hawthorn class visit to St. John's Church

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September - Juniper class visit to St. John's Church

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September – Individual pupil photos by Yellow

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October - Harvest Festival Assembly, donations of long-life packets and tins to be brought to the hall in the morning

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October – Year 6 Bikeability

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October - Parents' Evenings

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October - Parents' Evenings

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October – FOFJS lower and upper school discos**

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October – INSET DAY

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October - Y4 and Y5 Reading Café

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October - Y3 and Y6 Reading Cafe

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November – Y5 Wessex Water in school for workshops with each class

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November – Year 6 Solent Sky Museum and Tudor House Visit, details to follow.

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November – Year 3 visit to Butser Ancient Farm, details to follow