



Cheddar First School

Hillfield, Cheddar BS27 3HN

01934 742546 www.cheddarfirstschool.co.uk

Newsletter Number 6

12th October 2018

Message from the Governors

Many of you are aware that Earlybirds Pre-school are holding an Extraordinary General Meeting on Wednesday 17th October at 7:30pm in the school hall. We would encourage anyone with an interest in Early Years Education to attend the meeting to help shape the future of the provision.

Some parents have said that the letter sent out by the pre-school has caused concern about the financial implications for users of the children's centre, including Cheddar First School, Happy Kids and the pre-school. Get Set services are going to stop paying the servicing and maintenance costs and a proportion of utility costs, so these will need to be shared between the other users from January 2019. Please be assured that we are planning for these changes and working with the Local Authority and other users to minimise any impact of these increases. We are committed to ensure effective use of the centre on an ongoing basis, including the provision of high quality, good value early years provision.

Parent-Teacher Appointments

We will be holding Parent-Teacher appointments for all year groups on Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th October 4-6pm. Signing-up sheets are now up outside the classroom. If you do not come into school, please email cheddarfirst@educ.somerset.gov.uk with your availability and we will arrange a time.

Week beginning 15th October

Monday 15th

3:30-4:30pm Sports Club Years 3 & 4

Tuesday 16th

Year Two Swimming

Wednesday 17th

*9:00-9:30am Kingfisher Class Inspire
Years 3 & 4 @ Kings of Wessex
3:30-4:30pm Sports Club Years 1 & 2
7:30pm EGM Pre-School Meeting*

Thursday 18th

*Year Three Swimming
3:30-4:30pm Cheddar First School Singers
Years 3 & 4 Open Evening @ Fairlands*

Friday 19th

Starting or Moving Schools in September 2019

The Somerset County Council Admission Website is now live for parents/carers to make their on-line application: www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions

For children due to start school for the first time or transfer to middle school, the closing date for applications is **15th January 2019** and the national offer day is **16th April 2019**. An Admissions Guide is available on the website and parents/carers are advised to read the information before making an on-line application.

Somerset County Council will not be sending out individual letters this year, so please do make sure you visit the website and make your application.

School Photos by Tempest

Please look out for the envelope your child has brought home today. Inside is an order form which you can complete and return, with payment, to the school by Friday 19th October.

Data Collection Sheets and Parental Consent

Thank you to everyone who has already returned the Data Collection Sheets and Parental Consent Forms. If you haven't already done so, please can you return them as soon as possible. Thank you.



We have noticed that our forest school area is running low on branches that are suitable for us to use for shelter building.

Please can you help? If you are able to find one or two branches in your garden or whilst out walking, we would very much appreciate them!

We would like branches that are between 1 and 2 metres in length and at least 5 cm thick. Thank you,

The School Council

Dates for your diary

17 th October	EGM Meeting regarding the Pre-School to be held at Cheddar First School 7:30pm.
19 th October	Reception Story Telling for parents. 9am.
24 th & 25 th October	Parent /Teacher appointments for all year groups. 4- 6pm – Lists have been put up outside the classrooms
26 th October	Flu Nasal Immunisation taking place in school. Please return your permission slips.
29 th Oct – 2 nd Nov	Half Term – Happy Kids Holiday Club
5 th November	Start of the new term
22 nd November	Year 2 SATs Meeting 7pm

Cheddar Library - Christmas Crafts Family Session

Start the countdown to Christmas creatively at a family craft session on Friday 2nd November at 2:30pm at Cheddar Library, and make Christmas decorations, cards and boxes. The Sewing and Craft Group, who meet at the library, invite children, accompanied by a parent, grandparent or carer, to this Autumn Holiday Family Session. Please telephone Cheddar Library on 0300 123 2224 to book a place, or e-mail chelib@somerset.gov.uk Please note there will be a 50p charge for materials. We hope to see you there!

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

As you know we are working hard to keep overall attendance in the school above 97%. Last year we did not quite reach this target. Whilst we recognise that most absences are due to illness, we would encourage you to send your child to school as much as you possibly can and try and ensure any appointments take place after school or that your child attends school before or after the appointment. It goes without saying that the more days your child is in school, the more they will learn and we all want the best for your children.

Term Dates 2018/19

Term dates and In-service days for 2018/19 are on the school website www.cheddarfirstschool.co.uk Please note holidays in term time cannot be authorised.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you are worried about a child and would like to talk to a member of staff in private, please make an appointment to see:

Mrs Wookey – Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Smith or Mrs Alen – Deputy Designated leads

As parents you can contact support agencies directly
NSPCC 0800 800 5000
Somerset Direct
0300 123 2224