

## Welly Walk for Farm Africa

Next Friday all the children will be taking part in our annual sponsored Great African Welly Walk. The children will bring sponsor forms home tomorrow to start gathering money for our Harvest charity, Farm Africa. Details are to follow...

## Bikeability

A group of children in Year 6 took part in a two day Bikeability course earlier this month, to give them the skills and confidence to ride their bikes on today's roads. They took part in activities on the playground and then undertook a series of manoeuvres on the road.

## Team Cross Country

Those of you who were able to come to our team Cross Country event last Friday will agree that it was a fantastic event. The children in all classes ran laps of the field, whilst their teams cheered them on. After very impressive performances from all children, the Merchants team were crowned this year's winners. Well done all boys and girls for your brilliant efforts and for cheering each other on.

## PTFA Pumpkin Competition

This is a reminder that the PTFA are once again holding their very popular pumpkin carving and decorating competition after half term. This is taking place on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October and all entries should be brought to the school hall. There will be prizes for creative designs per class. So come on children, start planning your designs!

## Homework

You will recall that I wrote to parents at the start of term, to inform you of our change to the homework

that we set children. The expectation is that children will learn spellings, undertake a times table or calculations activity each week and that all children will read every day. We have been very impressed with those children who have been reading on a regular basis – well done boys and girls. However, there are still a number of children who are not reading at home, or do so very rarely. We expect all children to read to an adult at home and for the Home Learning Journals to be signed accordingly. We would also like to remind parents to sign the declarations in the front of the journals. Thank you.

## Club Cancellation

Parents' Evenings are taking place on Monday and Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> October and, as a result, there will be no Wiggles and Giggles and no Film and Musical Theatre clubs on these days. Please also note that there will be no Film or Musical Theatre clubs on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October either. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

## End of School Day Arrangements

To ensure the safety of all children, we ask that parents inform class teachers or the school office, of changes to collection arrangements at the end of the school day. We will only accept changes to plans that come directly from parents or carers and we will not send the children home without this parental consent. We thank you in advance for your cooperation with this matter.

## Pupil Premium

I would like to remind parents that if you are claiming certain benefits, the school could be entitled to Pupil Premium funding to support your child's education. This will also entitle you to claim free school meals **even if** your child is in KS1 and receiving the government's Universal Free School Meals or if they are in any year group and prefer to bring a packed lunch. Please come to the school office for further details on eligibility and applying for free school meals.

## KEY DATES:

- 29<sup>th</sup> September: Look and Share and Medlycott Class cake sale
- 2<sup>nd</sup> October: Reception children start full time
- 4<sup>th</sup> October: Apple Day for Lower School
- 6<sup>th</sup> October: Welly Walk
- 10<sup>th</sup> October: Flu vaccinations Reception and Years 1, 2, 3 and 4
- 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> October: Parents' Evenings
- 19<sup>th</sup> October: Harvest produce brought to the hall and Harvest church service at St. John's Church at 10.30am. All parents welcome!
- 20<sup>th</sup> October: Look and Share, Newtown Class cake sale and children break up for half term
- Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October: INSET day
- Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October: Pumpkin carving competition
- 7<sup>th</sup> November: Whole school photographs
- Week beg. 13<sup>th</sup> November: Friendship Week
- 17<sup>th</sup> November: Children in Need (event to be confirmed)



# SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

