



ST JOHN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHARLTON PARK
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15th March 2011

Dear Parent/Carer,

An invite to lunch and to join your child/ren at play!

Now that it appears that the Spring sunshine has finally arrived we can once again resume our use of the new play area. I have had the equipment inspected by a ROSPA accredited officer following the long and harsh winter and the children have this past week been enjoying the play area once again.

Following requests drawn from our recent parent/carers consultation I should like to invite parent/carers to lunch! I hope that this will provide you with an opportunity to see at first hand how the lunch hour functions. I would request that all parent/carers purchase a school meal at £3.05; an excellent opportunity to sample the food that is prepared and cooked for the children here at school and then to watch the new play area in use.

I am aware that parent/carers will have a wide range of differing work commitments. Not wishing for work commitments to prevent interested individuals from visiting school, I have set aside *a whole week* for parent/carers lunch visits. You are invited to lunch on either of the following days;

- Monday 4th April 2011
- Tuesday 5th April 2011
- Wednesday 6th April 2011 (Easter Lunch Day)
- Thursday 7th April 2011
- Friday 8th April 2011

Should you wish to take up my invitation to lunch, please speak to Mrs Collins in the school office who will inform you if a place is available on your chosen day and who will provide you with a lunch menu in order that you might make your food selection. Mrs Collins will also provide you with more details with regards to when you should arrive and how the visit is to be organised. Alternatively, you may choose to view the menu online; an electronic copy can be found on our school website.

On this occasion, and to make sure that **all** of our parent/carers have had an opportunity to visit school during the lunch break, the invite is open to all. However, in future the offer will only be open to new parent/carers of children entering our Reception Class.

Please note: places will be limited by the space that we have available. Therefore, places will be allocated on a 'first come, first served basis'. Having secured your place, please ensure that Mrs Collins has your food order by **no later than Monday 21st March 2011** to allow the school kitchen good time to order the required foodstuffs. I hope that you enjoy your lunch (and playtime!)

Teachers2Parents Text Service: subscription renewed

Following your overwhelmingly positive feedback from our recent parent consultation with regard to the efficiency and utility of our text messaging service I have decided to renew our subscription. Thank you for your comments. They are appreciated.

Comic Relief: A 'red nose' mufti day, a fair and now a talent competition!

I have been asked by the children if we could round off our day of comic relief fun with a talent competition. This sounds a wonderful idea and will give our children an opportunity to show us their talents and skills in way that might not ordinarily be possible in school. Given time constraints, and given the huge response that I have received from the children, it will be necessary to limit the talent show to performers from the juniors (Years 3 – 6). The children were informed of this decision on Friday 11th March 2011 in order that they might have time to consider their acts and to practise over the weekend.

The children's class teachers have made a list of those children who would like to perform and I will be holding 'auditions' on Wednesday and Thursday. The purpose of holding the auditions is, as you will have guessed, to ensure that the children are in fact ready to perform and with confidence to the whole school. The auditions will also serve to reduce the number of performers to a manageable level. As you might suspect, there is a huge amount of interest from potential performers and you will understand that sadly a degree of disappointment is inevitable when undertaking such an event.

Finally, I am sorry that I am on this occasion unable to extend an invitation to parent/carers and grandparents to the talent competition but as you will appreciate, with 220 children, staff and talent show 'props' there simply will not be enough room to seat everyone comfortably and in line with fire regulations.

Bikes and Scooters: a reminder from the School Council

I have been asked by our School Council to include the following message in my newsletter -

Dear all pupils and parents of St John's School,

*Please make sure that you don't ride your bikes and scooters up and down the paths leading into the school as these paths are only for walking on. You could easily hurt someone by riding on them so wheel them into school please. We've seen many adults (some with prams) having to move out of the way due to unwary children scooting and biking down the path at the end of the school day. Please **DON'T** ride on the school grounds. Another problem with bikes, but mainly scooters, is that they're not put on the crocodile racks properly - children just throw their scooters near the rack, this damages the grass around the crocs but more importantly, your scooters. What also happens is that scooters are put into the bike forks meaning that children who ride bikes are forced to lay them on the ground. The correct way to hang your scooter on the rack is to fold it up (if you can't, ask a Year 6 monitor nearby) then put the handle bars through the two rails. Please do this from now on.*

On a more positive note, the School Council feel that it would be useful to have some new signs placed near the crocodile racks, encouraging children to hang their scooters on the racks in the correct way. Mr Cottrell is considering our suggestion.

Please follow the two simple rules in the future or the crocs might eat your bike or scooter!

By Jack M T (Year 6) on behalf of the School Council

My thanks to our School Councillors for their ongoing work.

Yours sincerely

Mr M R Cottrell
Headteacher