



Welcome back to Reigate Parish Church School. We hope that you all had a restful summer holiday and managed to enjoy yourselves despite the weather! The staff have been very impressed with the way in which the children have settled into the routine and rhythm of school. We work hard to get the transition process right for our children and always welcome feedback from you so that we can improve further.

At our school, we continue to strive for a curriculum that cultivates positive attitudes towards learning. We want our children to be inquisitive, self reliant and responsible learners who understand how they learn. We will continue to pay explicit attention to the detail of the teaching of the basic skills of literacy and numeracy. At the same time, our young children need opportunities to play and learn in an environment that allows them to take risks, to be creative, to solve problems and to develop morally and ethically. It is our quest to provide an exciting and innovative curriculum that draws all of our children towards the exhilaration of learning. We look forward to another successful, happy year so that we can all enjoy these very special early years of your children's lives.

As well as all the new Ladybirds and Butterflies, I would like to welcome Connor who has joined year two and Lily and Alice who have joined year one. I am sure they will settle in and make lots of new friends quickly. A warm welcome also to all new staff this term including support staff, midday supervisors, our new SENCo Mrs Debbie Jackson and our two new Newly Qualified Teachers: Miss Lizzie Eggleston (Caterpillars) and Miss Emma Thompson (Honeybees). I would like to wish them all every happiness at the Parish and hope that they will be very happy and successful at our school. I would also like to express my thanks for the way in which you have embraced me so warmly into your school community. I will be working very hard for the children and the school community to ensure that the school continues to thrive and meet the needs of all of its learners.

#### **Breakfast club**

Our breakfast club is now a year old and continues to be very popular. We have a limit of 16 children per session and all children attending must have been registered two days before their first session. Children can be dropped from 8am. See Juanita Collman, breakfast club supervisor, for more information.

#### **Parents' Forum**

Every half term Parents' Forum meets to discuss a variety of topics; some school-led and others brought forward by parents. It is crucial that the school continues to develop and move forward and this can only happen if we are self-evaluative and listen to and act upon the views of all of our stakeholders. Representative governors also try and attend the meetings usually held at 2.15pm in school. Parents are welcome to attend and have their say. The first meeting this term will be on Thursday 24th September at 2:15pm. It will be your chance to meet the governing body and ask them questions about their role in school. Please, please attend!!

#### **Curriculum Evenings**

These evenings are designed to give you information about what and how your child is learning in school. We run one for reception parents about the Foundation Stage Curriculum and one for parents of years one and two children about Key Stage 1 of the National Curriculum. The dates are on the calendar attached.

#### **Parent Consultations**

These follow the curriculum evenings in the autumn and focus on how your child has settled into their new class and looking forward to their next steps of learning. Books/work are not put out on this occasion. They are available later in the academic year for the second parent consultation evening. If you are unable to make other arrangements for child care, Mr Cole is available to supervise children during parents evening. Dates are on the calendar and the appointment lists will be displayed first thing from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October, for you to sign.

#### **Safe Journeys and Parking**

As you know parking is difficult in this area and I have listed below some of Reigate Parish's parking rules, particularly for new parents. Please make sure other people collecting and dropping off to school, eg grandparents and au pairs, know them too.

- Only park in designated bays
- **NO DOUBLE PARKING**
- Look for spaces from the turning circle. **DO NOT DRIVE IN AND REVERSE OUT.**
- Remind all the children that it is a car park and they shouldn't run out between the cars.

Police advice re parking around the school remains the same:

- Leave a big enough gap—wide enough for a double buggy to get by (1.2m)
- Only park on one side of the road
- Do not obstruct driveways
- Do not park on zigzag lines
- Do not park within 10m of a junction
- Do not park on corners

While the sun is shining why not scoot, walk or park and stride: it gives the children a good start to the day.

### Email

Many of you have agreed to receive letters via email which helps to make communication more efficient and is more environmentally friendly. It continues to be successful for most families and the office staff. If you change your email address then please let the office know as soon as possible. A file of hard copies of all the letters can be found in the main reception area and each class will display recent letters too. The Headteacher's Headline will also be posted on the school's website [www.reigate-parish.org.uk](http://www.reigate-parish.org.uk).

### Attendance/Absence

For all new parents, and to remind existing parents, the school's policy on absence and sickness is that parents should call the school office before 9.30 am - if their child is going to be absent on that day. Obviously this does not apply for a pre-arranged authorised absence. You will be asked the reason for the absence and when they are likely to return to school. If your child has had sickness or diarrhoea they must not return to school until 24 hours after their last symptoms and they are eating and sleeping normally. If you do not contact the school, we will call you and persistent absence will be followed up by the Education Welfare Officer

### Tissues

As we head towards winter we can expect colds and coughs to be more prevalent. We think that children should have free access to tissues in the classroom and to this end we would be very grateful if your child could bring in a box of tissues. Historically, we have found that if every child brings a box we can get through the year and money which would otherwise be spent on tissues can instead be used to purchase teaching and learning resources.

### Sickness

If your child has had sickness or diarrhoea they must not return to school until 24 hours after the last symptoms and they are eating and sleeping normally.

### Strawberries

Last year we had children who were severely allergic to strawberries and so we asked children not to bring them into school in their lunch boxes. We no longer have children with this allergy and it is now fine for strawberries to be part of children's lunches. May I thank you for your support and cooperation last year.

### Lining Up/Drop-Offs

The children have been reminded that no-one is allowed to line up before their whistle goes (1 blast reception, 2 blasts other classes). This has proven to reduce congestion and make it easier for the children to find their lines. Please do not take buggies into the line as there is not enough space. Ideally the children should say goodbye and then go and line up. Parents are discouraged from taking children into class as again their just isn't enough space. Years 1 and 2 children are able to be independent and children in reception have additional adults to help them.

Class teachers aim to come into the playground before the whistle goes, but if you need to give them a message eg can't find book bag, granny picking up, etc—please put it in a note for your child to give in. We have trialled this for two years and it has helped the crush around the teacher. Teachers are usually available at pick up time for a quick chat and can always be contacted to make an appointment.

### Monday Drop-Ins

Between 3.05 pm and 3.30 pm on a Monday teachers are in class to see you and for children to show you work on the walls etc. If they wish to show you something in a book, please ask the teachers to see it. If you have a younger child at Reigate Parish or playgroup, you have got time to collect them then and pop in before 3.30 pm when we start out staff meeting.

### Celebration Assemblies—every Friday

Every Friday we celebrate the children's achievement in and out of school. The class teachers choose three children from their class who have worked hard, this may be a piece of work but it could also be for attitude and perseverance or personal and social skills. Each child is given a certificate that is displayed outside the head teacher's office for a week before it is taken home. Their names are also included in the next head teacher's headline.

We encourage children to show the rest of the school their certificates and awards from out-of-school activities for example swimming and gym badges, rainbows or beaver badges. We also celebrate birthdays during Celebration Assembly.

### Celebration assembly:

<b>Caterpillars</b> Alice Northover Amy Traszko Jake Davis Eleanor McNulty	<b>Grasshoppers</b> Lily Dunkin Henry Hilder Esme Cowan Ellie Booth	<b>Honeybees</b> Niamh Chavasse Charlie Hetherington Tom Glover Alisha Clark	<b>Dragonflies</b> Conor Gibbons Stella Gold Joshua aka-Bashorun Adam Tarrant
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## Reigate Parish Church School

### Diary Dates:

<b>Autumn Term 2010</b>	
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Reception Class photos, Argus newspaper
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Yr 2 to Brighton Sealife Centre
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	2.15 pm Parents' Forum
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	9.00 - 9.50 am MacMillan Coffee Morning in hall
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	7.30 pm PTA AGM in hall
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	Open Morning for prospective parents 9.30 - 10.30 and 10.45 - 11.45 am 3.00 pm PTA second-hand uniform sale in playground at the end of school 7.30 pm Key Stage 1 Curriculum evening
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	Prayer Group 9.00 am - 9.25 am in school 7.30 pm Foundation Stage curriculum evening
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church 10.30 am
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent consultation sheets available to be signed from this morning Open Morning for prospective parents 9.30 - 10.30 and 10.45 - 11.45 am
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 1 visit to Brighton Toy and Model Museum
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Reception classes visit to Priory Park
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	2.30pm to 6pm Parent/teacher consultation meetings 7.30 pm PTA fund-raising event
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	3.30pm to 7pm Parent/teacher consultation meetings
19 <sup>th</sup> - 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Anti Bullying Week
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Deadline for receipt of Year 2 and Reception applications for entry in September 2010
26 <sup>th</sup> - 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Half Term
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Tempest Photographer in school - individual photographs
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	School Fireworks
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents' Forum 2.15 pm
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Christmas making day - school finishes at 2.30pm
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity Play— 1.45pm dress rehearsal for grandparents and pre-schoolers, doors open at 1.30pm
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> and Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity Play - 1.45pm, doors open at 1.30pm
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	1.30 - 4.00 pm School Christmas Fair
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	DT day - Years 1 and 2
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	2pm Church service at St Mary's Church, collection from church at 2.45pm
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas parties and last day of term. School finishes at 1.30pm
<b>SPRING TERM 2010</b>	
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Term starts at 8.55am
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	HALF TERM
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	School Closed - INSET training
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Terms ends at 1.30 pm
<b>SUMMER TERM 2010</b>	
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Term starts at 8.55 am
31 <sup>st</sup> May - 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Half term
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> and Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	School Closed - INSET training
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Term ends at 1.30 pm