



SAE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO 123 6TH SEPT 2019

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wed 11 th Sept	HPV vaccination for yr 8 girls
Sat 14 th Sept 10:00 - 15:00	Community work day
Fri 27 th Sept 13:00 - 14:00	Michealmas KG celebration parents invited
Sat 28 th Sept 10 -12	Open morning
Fri 4 th Oct 10 - 12	Yr 7 open morning
Fri 4 th Oct 17:00 - 21:00	Welcome PTFA Ceilidh
Thurs 10 th 18.30 - 20:00	KG class parent meetings

21 st Oct - 25 th Oct	Half term
Fri 1 st Nov 10 - 12	Reception open morning
Sat 23 rd Nov 10 - 12	Open morning - experience kindergarten
Fri 6 th Dec	Flu vaccinations
Fri 6 th Dec 10 - 12	Reception open morning
Mon 9 th - Fri 20 th Dec	Class 10 mocks

OUR WEEK IN PHOTOS

Our new class 1/2's



A REMINDER OF THE TIMES OF THE SCHOOL DAY

	Gates open	School starts	School finishes
Kindergarten	08.50	09.10 08.50 - 09.10 parents stay and play or early morning activities	14.00 or 15.30*
Lower school (classes 1 - 5)	08.50	09.10 classrooms open 09.05**	15.45*
Middle and upper school (classes 6 - 10)	08.50	08.55***	15.45

*Kindergarten finishes at 14.00 every day and class 1-2 finish at 14.00 on a Wed and Fri. If you would like your Kindergarten or class 1 and 2 child to stay for afternoon care you must book a week in advance on Arbor. For help on how to book please see the parent information on our website.

** the classroom doors open at 09:05 and the teachers and teaching staff are available for the children. If you need to pass on a message to the teacher please leave it at reception who will pass it on.

*** please no parents in the teaching block.

PLEASE REMEMBER WE ARE A MOBILE PHONE FREE SITE. YOU WILL BE CHALLENGED BY STAFF AND STUDENTS IF YOU ARE SEEN USING YOUR MOBILE.

THIS TERM'S PARENTS' EVENINGS AND REPORTS

There will be a class parents meetings this half term and a short progress report during next half term. Exact dates for each class will be confirmed.

The class parent evening is an opportunity for parents to come together and meet the class teacher who will share activities, curriculum and expectations for the class. There will be an opportunity to see some of your children's work and meet other parents.

The progress report will be for each individual child.

TRAVELLING TO SCHOOL & PARKING

Thank you for all the positive comments and messages of support for the hard working Front and Back Gate teams. We realise that the first few days of the school year are always a little bit fraught as everyone gets into the new routines required to get to school on time, and with all the right stuff. As you will have realised there is little parking around the school that does not have restrictions, so using the car to get pupils to school can be a stressful experience.

We know that lots of pupils are already walking, cycling, or catching the bus to and from school, and

several people have asked for more information about ways of getting to school without using a car. We can recommend the following website, simply put in your home address, the school name, then the time you want to leave/arrive and the various public transport options will come up.

<https://www.travelinesw.com/>

If you need to drop pupils at school, then please drop pupils in Class 6 and above further away from the school and get them to walk to last bit of the journey. Drop pupils in Class 4 and above in the drop off zones and let them walk into school on their own. Leave parking spaces in the layby for KG parents, and only park in West Garth Road if you have a child in Class 1-3, or if your child requires to be walked into school.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY WORK DAY

Please note that there will not be a school community work day on Sat 14th Sept. The first School community work day will be on Sat 28th Sept from 10am-3pm. We shall give more details by email and in the next newsletter.

VACANCIES

Are you interested in joining our team of dedicated and committed staff as a part-time Catering Assistant or Mealtime Assistant at our school? We currently have vacancies for these posts in the school. If you are interested and would like to consider applying, you will find all the details on our school webpage.

Alternatively, if you have an interest in working with our fantastic team but the current vacancies did not afford you that opportunity you can express your

interest with our School Business Manager who will be pleased to keep your details and alert you when further vacancies arise. Please pass you details to reception or telephone 01392 757371

FLU VACCINATIONS

This year the flu vaccinations are taking place on Fri 6th Dec.

As a school we are duty bound to offer the flu vaccinations to our families. As a compromise to the parents who have concerns we have scheduled the session to a Friday afternoon.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

A warm welcome back to a new school year. After a busy two inset days at the start of the week, it was great to welcome students back to new classrooms and timetables, and the teamwork of colleagues in sorting out snags and helping orient the school through this first week.

We have a busy term ahead, with an expectation of news on re-brokering due in these first few weeks, an AMC meeting coming up on the 17th, and an Ofsted monitoring visit due shortly afterwards. We have not been able to replace our two Vice-Principals at this stage, and are in ongoing conversations with the RSC and ESFA about the support that will be coming in. I made a decision, with the support of the AMC, that any support should come alongside us on a project basis, rather than allow any short term capacity to destabilise the increasingly strong teams in different areas of the school.

I am delighted, for myself, to be back in the classroom with classes VII and VIII teaching Justice, and look forward to an after school Justice Club in the Spring Term when we will work towards the Magistrates Court Mock Trial Competition.

The AMC meeting on the 17th will also consider the letters signed by a number of parents concerned about the school's timetable, break times, and finish times. I regret that in sharing these changes in the first place I did not elaborate effectively enough on the balance needed between required academic

progress and the rhythmic element that is so central to a Waldorf education, and how the strong presence of land-craft and movement has been part of this design. I will also include a discussion of these letters as part of any meetings I may have with Avanti Schools Trust.

Debbie, Harriet, Jane and Tracy, as Phase Leads of KG, Lower, Middle and Uppers Schools (respectively) will be sharing with you this next week the timing of parent evenings for this term, and then shortly afterwards the formats of reports and parent evenings for the rest of the year. We are taking on board feedback from last term's parent forums and from good practice guidelines in order to schedule individual meetings after a full report has been sent home mid-year, as well as providing interim progress reports each term.

This month sees the celebrations for 'Waldorf 100' – the anniversary for the founding of the first Waldorf school in Stuttgart in 1919. Over the course of the next few weeks, I will be working with colleagues and the Student Council to celebrate the seeds we carry of future growth within this movement, and those that we want to nurture.

Our first main lessons this term are as follows:

Class I/II	Oak & Sycamore	The Line and the Curve (English)
Class II	Cedar	The Ant and the Grasshopper (English)
Class III/IV	Holly & Ivy	The Journey to the Promised Land (English)
Class V	Hazel	Trimurti: Brahma, Vishnu & Shiva (English & RE)
Class VI	Poplar & Spruce	Straightedge & Compass (Maths) / Brothers & Kings (History)
Class VII	Willow & Juniper	Reduction & Balancing (Maths) / Age of Discovery (History)
Class VIII	Beech / Maple	Winning at Cards (Maths) / Revolution (History)
Class IX	Ash	Freedom, Fate and Farce (English)
Class X	Elder	Shocking Stuff (Science)

All best wishes,

Paul

