

# The Fields

October 2019

## A message from Rikke

Welcome to a new school year. I am excited to welcome you all, whether new or returning to our fantastic Nursery School. This Newsletter includes dates for your diary and practical information.

As we are going into 2019-2020, I would like to draw your attention to the issue that this school is part funded by Cambridgeshire County Council. As you may be aware we are facing financial constraints and need to be very careful about spending. Our most valuable asset is our staff. This year will again see cuts and changes to our service. A consultation will be starting this month and we value your thoughts and opinions on this.

## School Admissions

You can now apply for your child's place at primary school.

It is your responsibility as a parent/carer to apply and the deadline for applications are 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

Please ask at reception/office if you have any questions. Link for admissions: [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/admissions)

## Messages

### DIARY DATES

More dates to come but here are a few for your diary...

#### Oct

9<sup>th</sup> Oct                      **Apple crushing**

15<sup>th</sup> Oct                      **Black History  
Month Celebration  
with African  
Drumming  
'Mandinka Roots'**

21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>                      **Autumn Half Term**

28<sup>th</sup> Oct                      **Closed for Staff  
Training Day**

30<sup>th</sup> Oct                      **Photographer**

#### Dec

2<sup>nd</sup> Dec                      **Christmas Fayre**  
w/c 9<sup>th</sup>                      **Christmas Singing**  
w/c 16<sup>th</sup>                      **Christmas Parties**  
18<sup>th</sup> Dec                      **Autumn Term  
Closes**

#### Jan

6<sup>th</sup> Jan                      **Closed for Staff  
Training Day**

7<sup>th</sup> Jan                      **Spring Term Starts**

### New Children and Parents

In our Nursery School all are included and all are made to feel welcome. If you are new to our school there will be many questions as to how we run things. A newsletter will be issued every half term. The focus of the newsletter is to help us all to co-exist in our learning community, as well as informing you of what experiences we are providing for your child and for you. Our Nursery School consists of Cherry (2-3) and Willow (3-4). This newsletter will have sections relevant to all parents and carers attending our Nursery School. Your first point of call concerning your child's learning and care is your child's key person. Please address immediate questions to them and they will endeavor to answer your immediate questions. Please be aware that changes to your child's attendance pattern are associated with a cost of £25 towards an admin fee. This is to minimise the amount of changes you make.



Mobile phones are **only** allowed in the Café area. Thank you for not using mobile phones in other areas, helping us to adhere to child protection rules.



### Parking

Parking on the curbs, the grass or in the disabled bay (without a badge) is not permitted! If the car park is busy please park off site (where there is ample parking). Please let reception know if there are any issues with the parking.

Please do not allow your child to climb on the gate to open it. Always ensure the gate is closed after you.

Thank you for your understanding and helping to keep everyone safe!

### Child and Family Hub

ESOL classes are now running at Barnwell Library, English classes are held at the Galfrid School and Maths classes are soon to start at the Fields. There will be other parenting courses running throughout the year as well as the various usual weekly drop in sessions and activities. Please pick up a 'Whats's On' from reception.

## Under 3's - Cherry Information:

We are welcoming back children from their holidays and lots of new children too! It is amazing to see how the children have grown and changed over the break. In Cherry we will be making lots of new friends and learning about the boundaries we need to create a happy place. The temperature is dropping and you can feel a chill in the air and with that in mind, we will be looking at the seasons changing. Please bring conkers, leaves and pine cones that you have collected from when you've been out and about. This half-term we will be celebrating Black History Month. If you can share information about your cultural heritage please see your child's key person. We will be kicking off with a visit from Oumar from 'Mandika Roots' on the 15<sup>th</sup> October.

**Reminders;** Please remember to check your child's bag and ensure they have plenty of spare clothes (pants if your child is potty training). Please name coats and shoes to avoid confusion as children may have identical items. Lost property will be hung up under the display board as you come into Cherry. Please check and take anything that is yours. Anything left at the end of the month will be donated to a clothing bank.

## Over 3's - Willow Information

Willow has started back and we are all busy getting to know our new friends. We are working on learning each others names, learning about the rules in Nursery as well as having lots of fun both inside and outside. We will focus on children learning to look after themselves; managing shoes/ putting on wellies and coats. If you can, avoid shoes with laces- Velcro is best!

**Black History Month;** We will be kicking off with a visit from Oumar from 'Mandika Roots' on the 15<sup>th</sup> October. We will listen to music and taste food to celebrate the achievements of African and Caribbean communities. We will also celebrate the arrival of autumn with Harvest celebrations and activities

**Spare Clothes and Labels;** Please label your child's clothes. Many children have similar clothing so we can't keep track of it. Please also check your child's pegs for wet or soiled clothes everyday. Lost clothes will be hung on the lost clothes 'washing line' by the parents notice board.

**Apple Crushing;** We will be using our apple crushing machine to crush apples on 9<sup>th</sup> October as part of our autumn celebrations.

### Staff News

Welcome to our new and returning staff!

New Teacher: Emma in Willow

People returning from maternity leave: Sam in the office/reception

People going on maternity leave: Lauren in the office/reception

General enquiries: [office@thefields.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@thefields.cambs.sch.uk)

## Lateness and Fines

We rely on parents/carers to be responsible and understanding towards staffs other responsibilities. If you pick up late we cannot provide quality planning or record keeping for your child. Therefore you will now be fined £10 per 5 minutes late.

## Fruit Donations and School Funds



We gratefully receive weekly donations of fruit from parents and carers of both Willow and Cherry. Your child will be so proud to bring it in!

We are collecting contributions for the school fund. This fund supports children's additional resources. The fee is £1 per week. The fee for this term is £14. Please pay in reception

## 30 hours funding for 3 year olds

If you are entitled to 30 hours of education/care, it is your responsibility as a Parent/Carer to make sure you claim for the code every term. Failure to do this will mean your hours will be reduced or we will charge you for any hours over the universal 15 hours entitlement. To apply please go to: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-30-hours-free-childcare> to apply.

