



Droxford Junior School
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Headteacher: Matthew Dampier

November Newsletter 2017

Dear Parents

Parent meetings / workshops.

Thank you to all who attended (and led) a raft of meetings that occurred recently: Reading and Maths workshops, Parents evening and Year 6 Calshot meetings have all taken place. If you missed any workshops you may find what you need at the following link.

<http://droxfordjunior.co.uk/parent-workshops/>

We used 'Roving Bookshop' to provide a bookshop on the Tuesday and they were fantastic. The children had the opportunity to engage in the experience of a real bookshop in their own school. The range of books on offer was incredible. In one day parents and children spent over £1000 on books which is more than the usual two days. Although the commission raised was less (due to the Roving Bookshop being an independent family company) the books the children were able to access was so much better and this is the point of having a bookshop. If we can inspire young minds to read then we are doing well.



Thanks to all of you the school also received £210 in commission to purchase books. The Roving Bookshop will be back in February!





Open Morning

On Thursday 2nd November we will be having our Open Morning for prospective parents from our two lovely feeder schools and anyone else interested in seeing our school and applying for a place in the next Year 3 cohort.

We still have places in our current Years 3, 4 and 5 so it could be an opportunity for anyone to see our school and apply for an immediate in year start.

Autumn clean – Saturday 4th November

Thank you to those who have volunteered to help at our 'clean up' days in previous terms. We have achieved so much and had fun at the same time. There is always a sense of satisfaction from all when reflecting on the achievements and pride through community spirit.

This Saturday we have a mini digger for the day to take on some of the bigger, smashing and carrying tasks – in a safe, risk assessed manner of course! This will make life easier to remove planters and plants and I dare say - more exciting too!

We already have a few volunteers to help with the tasks listed below. Please return reply slip attached, email or phone if you are up for a couple of hours of community spirited, pizza laden fun! I am aware that it is bonfire weekend – there is no expectation of how long one stays. The more people the merrier and the quicker tasks are achieved. I will be around all day to muck in too.

The school will be open between 9.15 a.m. and 3pm – you are welcome to drop in at any time (with children who can easily be accommodated with games and films etc...). We provide lunch (at 12:15 – pizza!) and tea, coffee and biscuits and the necessary tools and materials for the tasks.

There is much to do this year. Painting, weeding, digging, chopping and bonfire making. In an effort to make space for the children on the playground, we will hire a skip and fill it with the remnants of three brick planters which we (some burly school staff members) will make a start demolishing the day before. The two blossom trees will need to be transplanted to the front of the school and will replace two prickly, unsociable bushes near some seating. The school also needs a bit of a spruce up in the corridors near the Year 5 and 6 classrooms and the picnic benches need painting with life extending wood preservative. Finally, certain areas of the school grounds need weeding and chopping back giving us the opportunity to have an impromptu bonfire.



The school governors and FODS are also supportive of the school obtaining a new permanent shed to be placed near our existing PE shed. This will house our DT and Science resources (currently in a rickety shed in the carpark – moved to make way for the lockers) and all of FODS resources. Therefore we need to build a concrete plinth in the area pictured and cut a path to the door of the new shed. Anyone who can dedicate some time to this project would be gratefully received.

Remembrance

Poppies will be on sale tomorrow. We are encouraging all children to make a donation of 20p or more for a poppy or to support the Royal British Legion by buying a wrist band or other items that are being sold (children have already been advised of suggested donations – no more than £1).

I will lead a remembrance assembly on Tuesday 7th November and we will observe a minute's silence at 11 a.m. on Friday 10th November. Please discuss the relevance and meaning of this commemoration and why we spare thoughts in silence for those who have fallen in conflict since 1914 – thank you.

Parking

With the darker evenings drawing in and inclement weather please can I call upon your support in using the identified parking zones around the village and consider the safety of where you drop your children off - i.e. not in the middle of a road, junction or Droxford Square blocking potential cars wishing to park. Thank you again for your considered support.

School Lunches

The new menu has now started. If the leaflet handed to your child has not made it home, details can be found on the school website. The Halloween themed lunch was on Tuesday 31st October.



[Christmas lunch will be on Wednesday 13th December](#) and will need to be ordered by Friday 24th November – please see above calendar page for details (*you can handwrite or email your reply*).



Children in Need - Friday 17th November

Non school uniform day and “[do your thing](#)” or be “[spotacular](#)” for a £1 donation. Take a look at the official website for ideas:

<https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/schools/spotacular>

Once again thank you for all your support,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Matthew Dampier'.

Matthew Dampier
Headteacher

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Autumn Clean – Saturday November 4th Anytime between 9:15 a.m. – 3p.m.

Please state where applicable, you’d be happy to support on the day. Bringing own tools of the trade would also be great (but not necessary) – please state if you will be. Thank you.

I’d / we’d be delighted to be indoors and paint!
I’d / we’d be delighted to be outdoors digging!
I / we don’t mind what the task is!

Name: Date: