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Dear Parents/Carers

Where did those 6 weeks go? Welcome back to a new school year at Surfleet Primary School. I hope that you were able to keep your children busy over the long summer holidays and you managed to enjoy one of the best summers we have had in recent times. It has been lovely to see all the children back and ready to learn and we have all been so impressed with how quickly the children have got back into school life.

After School Clubs

Hopefully the children are enjoying the new after school clubs that are on offer. Whilst these clubs may not suit everyone, I am sure that many children are enjoying trying something new. Unfortunately, some of these clubs are now full, however many still have a few spaces, so if your child would like to sign up, there is still the chance to do so. I am so pleased that so many children are attending and their behaviour has been brilliant. A new clubs list will go out again towards the end of this half term, so there may be some new clubs to look out for!

Jeans for Genes Day - Friday September 21st

This Friday is Jeans for Genes day and we would like to support this worthy cause once more. Jeans for Genes Day is the annual fundraising campaign for Genetic Disorders UK, the national charity that supports individuals and families affected by a genetic disorder. Monies raised on Jeans for Genes Day fund the work of the charity and provide grants to organisations for projects that aim to transform the lives of children with genetic disorders. If you would like to contribute to this national campaign, then your child can wear jeans (as well as the rest of their school uniform) to school on Friday and bring £1 as a donation. This will not be a full non-uniform day and normal lessons will be held as usual. Feel free to check out their website for more information: <https://www.jeansforgenesday.org/>

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Celebration Assembly

We believe that there is a great deal to celebrate at our school and we would like the chance to share more of this with you! One of the things we would like to try is to invite parents into our celebration assembly every Friday. We would love to invite all parents (and siblings, extended families, friends, etc.) every week, but, due to fire regulations, we simply cannot. However what we can do is to invite 2 people to attend for each child chosen to be in that week's assembly. How will it work? First of all, the teachers will all pick a child from their class who, for whatever reason, has really impressed them over the past week (or weeks...). If you are the parent of a child who is chosen, then you will receive a message on the Wednesday inviting two people in to that week's assembly. We would rather you not tell your child so as to keep it a surprise as long as possible, however that is up to you! On the Friday, you would drop your child off at school as normal and then wait at the office to sign in before joining in the hall for the assembly. I appreciate that it would be better for some of you to have more notice, however, as the awards are weekly, 2 days' notice is the best we can do. Please remember that we cannot allow more than 2 people to attend per child chosen and this includes other children. We don't want to turn anyone away so please do not put us in this uncomfortable situation. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask at the office.

Safeguarding

Keeping your children safe at school is our most important responsibility and we are constantly reviewing our policies and procedures to ensure that the children are the safest they can be. With this in mind, we will no longer be allowing parents/guardians into school via the main door in the mornings. However, we don't want you to feel as though you can't speak to your child's teacher or pass on an important message. To ensure that you have the opportunity to pass on relevant information or to have important conversations with staff, you can either pass on the information to the staff member on the door (usually me) or discuss this with the office. There may also be the opportunity to have a quick chat with the class teacher, but this will need to be organised at the office. Please remember that we are only following this procedure to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the children and we definitely encourage you all to keep communicating with us so that we can give your children the best education possible. Thanks for your help with this.

Lateness

As a school, lateness is not really an issue for many families, but it is something we really want to eradicate across the whole school. As we have now changed the structure of our school day, lessons start promptly at 9:00 after registration at 8:55. However, all classes have a 'start the day' activity which the children start doing as soon as they enter class. This means that those children who are 5 minutes late for registration have already missed an opportunity to accelerate their learning and progress. I am not saying that children must be at school at 8:45 or that lateness on odd occasions is a problem, but we just need your support with helping the children to achieve their best. Consequently, if they are at school on time, they will not only be learning from the first minute but they will also be more settled and ready to learn for their first official lesson of the day at 9:00.



Breakfast Club

To ensure that those children who attend Breakfast Club get the best start to their day as possible, we have changed the activities on offer. I understand, having a child of my own at primary school, that finding the time to read with your child regularly and to help them with homework can be a real challenge. In order to support you and your children, those children attending breakfast club will be able to use their time to complete homework, getting the necessary help they may need. Also, they will be able to read their school book sometimes with an adult listening to them. Furthermore, the children will be able to use the school's technology to complete fun maths activities. It will be the children's choice which activities they choose to do. I hope you agree that this will help the children settle into the school day and I am sure that this will also have positive impact in their learning. Remember, breakfast club is open to all and I would love to see more children attending. If you would like your child to attend, ask the office for more information.

School Photos

The photographer from Wrates will be in on Friday 5th October from 8.30am for sibling/family photos with school aged individual photos being taken during school time.

Harvest Date TBC

Christmas Carols TBC

Christmas Party Day/Christmas Lunch – Monday December 17th

PTFA events

Hallowe'en Treats (more details to follow) during school on Wednesday October 31st.

Hallowe'en Disco (provisional) Friday November 2nd – times to follow

Christmas Fair (provisional) Friday December 7th – 3:30-5

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