

25 September 2015

Settling in Evening

Thank you to all parents for coming in to meet us at Settling-In evening this week. We found it very helpful to be able to talk to you face-to-face and from the very positive comments we know you did too. Thank you too for the feedback you gave us on the survey forms. We will publish the details of these in next week's newsletter. In summary, the 60 responses received were overwhelmingly positive; two parents had queries about homework and two about menus and we will respond to those parents directly

Swimming – Equipment Update

7DA and 7EM – please remember to bring swimming goggles with you next week – it's much easier to concentrate on improving your stroke if you can have your eyes open!

Similarly, if your hair is long enough to be washed into your face then please bring a swimming hat.

Rugby – Equipment Update

As the PE lessons take us on into contact activities students will need mouth-guards. These are available from most sports shops e.g Sports Direct and are easily fitted having softened them in hot water. Prices range from £2.50 to £10

Forthcoming Events

29 September: Open Evening

8 October: Open Evening

15 October: Parents' Workshops (see article)

School Photographs

The rain cleared up enough on Thursday for us to manage to get a whole school photo outside with some sun in the sky! Proofs for the individual portraits and the whole school picture should be with us by the end of next week.

Teams

A huge 'well done' to the boys' rugby team who played their first match this week. Although they didn't win they acquitted themselves honourably. Having only practised together once before the match, they settled quickly and gelled as a team. Zachary Strike held the ball up in the driving maul and gained a lot of ground for the team; as a result of his good work both Danny Bolton and George Hamblin scored tries.



Fixtures

6 October: Boys' Rugby (Hm) v Rich. Park Academy

6 October: Girls' Football (Aw) v Waldegrave

7 October: Boys' T/Tennis Tournament (Away)

13 October: Girls' Football (Aw) v Teddington

16 October: Girls' T/Tennis Tournament (Away)

20 October: Girls Football (Aw) v Twick Academy

Literacy Fact - Brackets

The third in our Literacy Fact series, aimed at improving student literacy by getting people talking is

BRACKETS

Brackets, commas and dashes can all be used to separate extra pieces of information from the main body of the sentence.

Brackets are used to bring something extra into a sentence. The extra something can be an explanation, an interruption, or something that occurred to the narrator as an afterthought.

Sarah and Jodie (the twins) have just learnt ballet.

School Production

Congratulations to all those of you who came to auditions for the school show! After three rounds of auditions (including call-backs) we have finalised our cast. The levels of energy and the acting ability we saw on display were absolutely phenomenal; we can tell already that this is going to be an incredible show!



As Tuesday 29th September is Open Evening, the first rehearsal will be on Tuesday 6th October; all cast members will need to attend. However, in future, not all actors will be required for every rehearsal. Students will be issued with a rehearsal schedule so they know in advance when they will be needed.

Miss Monk and I cannot wait to begin working with you all.

Ms Sherry

Open Evening

Many students have volunteered to help us with our two Open Evenings on Tuesday 29th September and Thursday 8th October. There are lots of roles to be filled including tour guides, classroom helpers and musical performers. We are really pleased that so many of them want to take part.

Please do make sure you return the permission slip. Students will need to be back in school for 5.30 and will finish their duties at 8.30.

Parent Workshops

We will be holding a set of parent workshops on Thursday 15th October from 7pm until 8.30pm. This will be an opportunity for you to learn more about three important parts of secondary school life and how we approach them:

- Supporting literacy and homework
- Target setting
- eSafety

We plan to hold further workshops later in the year; please do feel free to suggest things that you would like to know more about.

For now, please put the 15th in your diary and we will send more details home nearer the time.

Schools' Bike Safety Competition

Enter the bike safety competition before 23 October 2015 to have a chance to win a bike worth £500!

The competition aims to encourage young people to think about the impact bike crime has on victims of bike theft, and to use their creative skills to make a short film animation or digital poster that will help them, their friends, neighbours and other residents to protect their bikes from being stolen.

For more information visit:

www.richmond.gov.uk/bike_crime