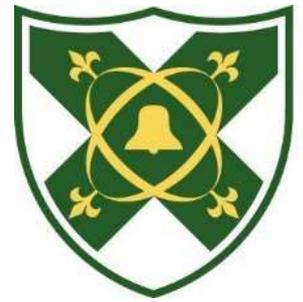


# Trottiscliffe CE Primary School Newsletter

September 7<sup>th</sup> 2018



**What a wonderful start to the school year and may I take this opportunity to welcome all our new families to Trottiscliffe. The children have all settled well into their new classes and there are lots of smiling faces as you wander through the school.**

During the summer there has been significant work in school including the division of the large double classroom into two classrooms to accommodate our increased school size and our new 4 class structure. May we thank the party of volunteer parents who completed the work led by Mick Sharman and enabled this to be completed at minimal cost to the school. There was also a team of volunteers from the village who undertook maintenance work to ensure the school grounds were ready to welcome us back to school this week. We are very lucky to be such a well-supported school and we are always grateful for these gestures that enable us to focus all our school funding on the resources and education of our pupils.

Our next newsletter will contain a list of dates for the term ahead as these are currently being finalised.

*Miss L C Henderson*

## 'Meet the teacher'

We will be holding a series of opportunities for you to meet your child's teacher and find out what they will be learning this year so watch out for these dates coming soon.

## School Photos

Stanley Baker Photographers are in school on the morning of **26<sup>th</sup> September** to take individual and class photos. We shall also be organising for group photos of any siblings in school during the morning, however if you have younger siblings and would like a photo to include them, the gates will be open from 8:30-9am for you to come to the hall for their photo.

Reception will also be having their photo taken by the Kent Messenger on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September as part of their **First Class Photo** feature.

## Uniform

Our pupils look so smart when wearing the correct uniform, thank you for making sure they all have what they need. Please could we ensure that all items are named as it is so much easier to reunite children with their lost property. May we also encourage all our children to tuck their shirts in when coming into school.

Can I remind all parents that children's earrings if worn, should be small, plain studs and **must** be removed for all PE activities. If your child is unable to remove their own earrings, please could they not wear them to school on PE days. It is a good idea for your child to bring in a small box to store their earrings in during PE as they are so easy to be misplaced in a busy classroom.

## Milk Scheme

We are part of the Cool Milk scheme which means that our under 5s receive a free milk carton each day funded by the government. If your child is 5 or over and you wish them to receive milk each day, you may register on the website [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com) and pay a subsidised rate for this scheme.



## Packed Lunches

We have a number of children with allergies in the school so please could you discuss with your child the importance of not swapping foods from their lunchboxes. We also must stress that no nuts or nut products should be brought into school for the safety of pupils with serious nut allergies.



## Bags2School

With the change of season, you may be having a clear out at home and with this in mind the TSA has kindly organised another Bags2School collection which will take place on 21<sup>st</sup> September. Bags will be sent home shortly and we have attached further details for those not familiar with this scheme to this email. Last time we raised £260 so as always the TSA are hoping to raise even more this time.

## Trottscliffe Breakfast Club and After School Club

As existing parents are aware, we have been trying to organise for a regular breakfast club and after school club at the school to support our working parents. We welcomed Play4Ages to the school last year and they had hoped to be able to provide this for Trottscliffe. Unfortunately there were not enough parental questionnaires returned to the school to make it a viable option at this time for an outside company at this time.

However as a school we know how much parents have expressed to us that they need this option so we are going to run a breakfast club each day from 7:45am and an after school club each day until 5:30pm. This will be organised and run by the school until such time as the numbers make it a viable option for us to approach another provider. Attached to this newsletter are the registration forms and booking forms. There are also copies available in the school office. We will be opening on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September to allow time for us to receive and process these forms. Usually we will require two weeks' notice for bookings however we are aware parents may be relying on this sooner so we are happy to make arrangements sooner at the start.

Breakfast club will open from 7:45am with children arriving and being signed in at the main entrance, and children can arrive up until 8:15am. The children will be offered a breakfast choice of toast, yoghurts, cereal and fruit. The Garden Room will be the base for the club as it was adapted for this purpose several years ago. The children will then be taken to their classes ready for the start of the school day.

After School Club will offer a snack from a range of healthy options and children will be able to participate in a range of activities during these sessions. Parents can choose from booking a short session (3:30-4:30pm) for £6 or a long session (3:30-5:30pm) for £10. Parents may collect children earlier than the end of their session but late collections must be avoided and will result in additional charges.

We are not aiming to make any profit with the fees simply meeting the day to day running costs. If neither of these facilities is proven to be needed by parents at our school, it will no longer be offered as we must cover the costs of staffing and resourcing in order for this to be viable.

## Music@Malling

As I'm sure many of you are aware from the banners in the Malling area, it is time for the annual Music@Malling activities. Key Stage 2 classes will be participating in a workshop at school where they will be devising a piece inspired by Michael Rosen's The

Great Enormo. This will then be performed in St Mary's Church, West Malling at 2pm on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September. Tickets will be available for parents on the door or via the website [www.musicatmallings.com](http://www.musicatmallings.com).

## Clubs

We have been seeking further opportunities for after school activities and we hope there will be more clubs being introduced as the term progresses. We currently offer:

Day & Time		Activity	Led by	Any cost?
Tuesday	15:30-16:30	Tennis Club	Jim Barton	£3 per session
Wednesday	12:40-13:10	Leading Lights	Reverend Shuker	
	15:30-16:30	Football Club	Premier Sports	tbc
Thursday	15:30-16:30	Tennis Club	Jim's Tennis	£3 per session
Friday	15:40-16:30	Dance Club	Premier Sports	tbc

If any parents have any further suggestions for extra-curricular activities we could provide, please don't hesitate to let us know.

If your child is signed up to a club, please encourage them to commit to the club with regular attendance and if there is a reason your child is unable to attend one week, we would ask that you inform the school office so that we can notify the organisers.

## Trottscliffe School & Community Farm

As you are aware, we have school farm that is managed in partnership with our community. We now have chickens, pigs and alpacas, and we have just received the news that some fostered pygmy goats will soon be joining us. The farm has an open day on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September** for members of the community to visit and meet the animals between 12 and 4pm with entry by donation. There will also be local honey and eggs from our own chickens available to purchase.

The farm is located on Green Lane and entry is through the allotments however parking in the lane is limited to residents and we therefore ask that you park near the village hall and take the short walk to the farm as we do when we visit the farm as a school.

## Trottscliffe Village Hall Barn Dance

There is a barn dance in the village hall on **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 7pm** the proceeds of which are being donated to our farm so please support this event if possible. Tickets are £15 and this includes a supper. For tickets contact Ian Mills 01732 824327.