



Sageston CP School

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This Half Term's Values: Happiness and Resilience

Newsletter – Summer Term 2023 – Friday 21st July 2023

Dear parents/carers,

We reach the end of what has been a fantastic year in the life of Sageston CP School – my first full year at the school. I cannot thank staff, pupils and families enough for making our school such a happy and friendly environment. I hope that everyone has a relaxing, yet fun-filled summer break with their families and loved-ones – it is certainly deserved.

Year 6 Leavers

I hope that during today's assembly for our Year 6 Leavers I was able to effectively convey what a wonderful year group they have been. I have been hugely impressed with their focus and determination in their learning and their care, support and guidance of the younger pupils within the school. They are fantastic role models, showing pupils throughout the school how to successfully approach school life so that they make the most of every opportunity given to them. When we have welcomed visitors or been off the school site, they have been exceptional ambassadors for our school. We will miss them greatly next year but they are ready to move on and Greenhill School is gaining 15 incredible young men and women who will be a huge credit to their new school.

Departing Staff

Today, we also say goodbye to a number of staff. We will miss each and every one of them – they have each had a big impact upon the pupils in our school. We held a special assembly to celebrate their time at the school this morning.

Mrs Anne Sterlini has been an LSA at the school for over 30 years. No doubt there are many, many people who live in Carew, Sageston and the surrounding areas who have benefitted from Mrs Sterlini's care, guidance and support over the years. However, she has decided the time is right to take voluntary redundancy. We wish her a restful and happy retirement and she leaves with our sincere gratitude for all she has done for the pupils of Sageston CP School.

Miss Angela Gray has been an LSA at the school for just over 13 years and has also decided to take voluntary redundancy. Thank you for everything you have done for our school and the pupils since 2010, Miss Gray. We hope that you also enjoy a restful and happy retirement. I am delighted to say that Miss Gray will not be fully ending her association with our school today; she plans to come back in from time-to-time in a voluntary capacity to continue to support learners.

Mrs Tracy Oakley has worked in many capacities at Sageston CP School over a number of years and has been a full-time LSA and lunchtime supervisor this year. Mrs Oakley always supports pupils with unrelenting enthusiasm and has been a very hardworking member of our team. Whilst we were not in a position to extend Mrs Oakley's contract this summer, I hope that we will be able to work together in the future.

Mrs Gemma Harland has taught Robin Class two days a week this year and, in addition, has taught in Kingfisher Class every Wednesday morning. We are grateful to her for her hard work and dedication to the school during that time – she has brought much energy and enthusiasm to her role and we wish her unlimited success in her new job.

FOSS – Fundraising Successes

As you are aware, the FOSS have continued to provide incredible support for our school this summer with members present at all of our key events. I am now in a position to share with you the very impressive amounts of money they have raised at various events this term:

<i>Sports Day:</i>	<i>£377.97</i>
<i>Summer Fete:</i>	<i>£709.97</i>
<i>SGT:</i>	<i>£110.75</i>
<i>BBQ Raffle:</i>	<i>£75.00</i>
<i>After School Sale:</i>	<i>£70.40</i>

Total: £1344.09

We have been very grateful to the FOSS for providing funding for our new musical instruments this term. This is a significant investment in our resources to improve our provision in the Expressive Arts Area of Learning and Experience. As you can see from the photo, the range of resources is impressive and we worked with an experienced adviser in terms of which resources were the most effective ones for us to purchase so that we made the most of the FOSS's significant investment and their fantastic generosity.



Visit to Manor Park

It was a pleasure to accompany the whole school to Manor Wildlife Park on Wednesday this week. Pupils were exceptionally well behaved and represented our school brilliantly. We are very grateful to the FOSS who agreed to fund an educational talk for each of the classes from one of the keepers. The pupils had a fantastic day.



Changes to Houses from September

Members of the School Council have asked pupils to complete a couple of questionnaires this week in response to councillor's concerns that our current houses are not even in terms of the number of pupils in each house. After completing these questionnaires, pupils have decided that we should have 4 houses (78% in favour) and we should have new names for houses (70% in favour). Having asked for suggestions for what the houses should be named after, the councillors selected 6 suggestions as a short list and the winning suggestion was Pembrokeshire Castles. From September each pupil will be placed in a new house and we intend to arrange a visit to the castles each of the houses are named after.

Pupils will be assigned their new houses in September. We are planning to work with the FOSS to see if there is a way to make coloured t-shirts more affordable considering you may have purchased coloured t-shirts which may no longer be needed. We also intend to organise a t-shirt exchange next term for those who may wish to donate any t-shirts no longer needed. I must also point out that we do not expect logoed coloured t-shirts to be worn – a t-shirt in the colour of your child's house is all that is required for Sports Day.

In September, following the pupils having been assigned to their new houses, we will select house captains and vice captains and staff will award house points throughout the week for a number of reasons including good examples of behaviour, successes in learning and to pupils who show they are meeting our school values. These points will be collected each week by house captains and vice captains and, during our celebration assembly, we will celebrate the winning house. Throughout each half term, these scores will be totalled and there will be a special reward for the winning house each half term. We will create a central display which shows the current tally of house points.

School Uniform

Many thanks to those of you who completed the online survey about school uniform. As promised, I am able to give you some general feedback, which you will find at the end of this newsletter. I will use this information to work with governors to make some slight adaptations to the uniform policy. Any changes made will be followed by a significant period of grace so that newly purchased uniform does not go to waste. We will provide more information about these changes when we have had chance to meet and discuss the feedback from the survey in the autumn term.

Key messages:

- There will be no changes to the polo shirts, hoodies, jumpers or cardigans worn by pupils.
- Pupils are not expected to wear logoed uniform, however, polo shirts, hoodies, jumpers and cardigans should match the royal blue colour of the logoed school uniform.
- The expectation remains that all pupils should wear school uniform every day, unless guidance from the school states that it is not necessary on a given day or during a particular event.
- Families in receipt of certain benefits, which mean they qualify for free school meals are also provided with a grant for school uniform. If you are not in receipt of free school meals and believe you may be entitled to them, please contact Mrs Shatford in the school office to discuss this. I realise that all pupils will receive free school meals from September but there are other benefits, such as the aforementioned grant for school uniform, that can help support qualifying parents financially. The school also benefits from additional financial support for pupils receiving free school meals which is targeted at improving the provision for those pupils.
- In September, there will be a storage unit in the foyer, housing pre-loved school uniform. This will be open to all parents to come and take spare uniform at their convenience. There is no charge for this uniform. We encourage donations to ensure this storage unit remains well-stocked.

Key Dates – September

Friday 1st September: INSET Day – school closed to all pupils

Monday 4th September: INSET Day – school closed to all pupils

Tuesday 5th September: First day of the autumn term for pupils

Celebration Video

As we have had a Leavers' Assembly and a special assembly for departing staff, there is no celebration video this week.

Have a wonderful break with your children and loved ones. We look forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday 5th September.

Yours sincerely,



Mr A Welch
Headteacher

School Uniform Questionnaire – Results

There were 56 responses to the questionnaire.

Question 2:

I am aware that Welsh Government 'strongly encourages' all Governing Bodies to have a school uniform and accompanying school uniform policy:

Yes – 91%

No – 9%

Question 3:

I am aware that it is not compulsory for parents to purchase badged school uniform or be expected to purchase school uniform from a specific retailer:

Yes – 80%

No – 20%

Question 4:

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
I believe school uniform is essential	48.2%	41.1%	8.9%	1.8%	0%
I believe school uniform helps to get my child/ren ready for school in the morning	46.4%	42.9%	8.9%	1.8%	0%
I believe school uniform helps for my child/ren to feel part of the school community	51.8%	39.3%	7.1%	1.8%	0%
I believe school uniform stops pupils from being distracted in class	28.6%	28.6%	28.6%	8.9%	5.4%
I believe school uniform stops pupils making hurtful or unkind comments about what their peers are wearing	53.6%	35.7%	7.1%	3.6%	0%
School uniform leads to equality for all pupils	46.4%	33.9%	10.7%	7.1%	1.8%

Question 5

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Comfort is more important than style	57.1%	41.1%	1.8%	0%	0%
All pupils should be wearing the same items (i.e. all wearing black shoes, hooded jumpers, black trousers, skirts or shorts)	17.9%	46.4%	25%	8.9%	1.8%
Plain trainers are more practical and comfortable than formal school shoes	53.6%	32.1%	10.7%	3.6%	0%
Formal school trousers, skirts, shorts should be worn by all pupils	10.7%	28.6%	33.9%	25%	1.8%
Hooded jumpers are an essential piece of Sageston CP School's uniform	14.3%	16.1%	46.4%	19.6%	3.6%
School uniform should reflect the seasons (i.e. different items of uniform should be worn at different times throughout the year)	33.9%	41.1%	17.9%	3.6%	3.6%
Leggings and jogging bottoms should be added to the uniform policy	35.7%	25%	28.6%	3.6%	7.1%
School uniform policy should also cover PE kit, with the school providing a list of what should be worn	16.1%	28.6%	35.7%	14.3%	5.4%