

11th September 2009

Dear Parents

I knew the weather would improve once we returned to school!

Our head checks only revealed 7 cases so thank you for your continued support.

We are looking forward to clubs starting next week. Unfortunately I will be unable to run recorder club on Monday 21st September as I am at a meeting but I will meet with the club at lunchtime during the week, so recorder club will start on Monday 28th September. Our tennis coach, Shane Pulling will be on holiday week commencing 16th November so there will be no tennis clubs during this week. Mrs Harrison has asked that all children attending the football club have shin pads and suitable footwear – they go out in all weathers. We would appreciate it if boots could be clean and undone – thank you. We still have a few places at maths club on a Monday and Miss Humphries has now opened this to all KS2 children (years 3 -6). Please let us know if you would like your child to attend this club.

A flyer will be coming home this week about Mere Carnival. This should let you know all the details you need if your child wishes to take part in the masks they made at school last term.

Our KS2 children will be learning how to play hockey in their games sessions on a Friday afternoon later this term. We strongly advise that they have a gum shield (mouth guard) to protect their teeth. Gum shields are not expensive and can be bought at any sports shop – they can also be re-moulded so will last them for a long time.

We are lucky to have a strong team of visiting musical instrumental teachers at Mere. They are:

Mr Walker – all brass instruments,
Mr Tabor – guitar (electric and acoustic), violin and keyboard,
Miss Powell – flute, saxophone and clarinet,
Mrs Wathen – piano, and
Mr Turner – drums.

If you would like your child to start learning an instrument this year please contact Mrs Rawlings in the office.

A letter all about 'The Friends' and what they do for our school will be coming home shortly. It was clear from the meeting last week that new membership is in great need. 'The Friends' raise money for us to visit the pantomime each year and it would be a great disappointment to our children if this could not take place. They are also in the process of saving for a new trolley of computers – they are almost half-way there! If there is a large group of parents/friends the work can be easily shared and the responsibilities do not fall to a few. If you have a few spare moments to help please come along to the next meeting or let Sam Cotton know – 'many hands make light work'! Thank you.

I would still value several more parents to form a focus group who would look at school policy and procedures from a 'parent's view'. I do not envisage any meetings and the system would work through e.mail. If you are able to help please could you let me know?

We have had several phone calls from concerned Mere residents about children walking to school. They are particularly worried that some parents are not watching their children as they are walking by the roads and on 2 occasions drivers have had to swerve to miss the children. Please keep a close eye on your children when walking to school.

Also, the dentist has reported that parents (not the children!) are walking through the hedge into their car park. This is damaging the hedge and is a health and safety issue.

Some dates for the next fortnight:

Wednesday 16 th September -	photographs,
	gold class to swim,
Wednesday 23 rd September -	green class to swim.

With thanks.

Yours sincerely

Catriona Williamson