



Sedley's Church of England Primary School

Love to Learn – Learn to Love

Sedley's Christian Values
LOVE - FAITH IN GOD - FORGIVENESS - SHARING & CARING - HONESTY



September 2022

Welcome back to the new school year and the first newsletter of 2022 – 23. It has been a positive start to the term and it has been lovely to see the children so enthusiastic and coming into school so well! Well done in particular to our new Acorns class. They are now with us full days and have been amazing at settling into school life!

It has been lovely to welcome new members of staff to the Sedley's family. Miss Bingham is teaching in Reception, Mrs Lowe is with Saplings and Mrs Dunne is with Seedlings. They have all made a fabulous start to the year and it is great to have them on board! We also welcome Miss Hall, a new Teaching Assistant and Mrs Rutledge, a new midday supervisor. I am sure you will join me in giving everyone a warm welcome to the school.

It is also wonderful to have Reverend Simeon Nevell in post at St Nicholas' now, meaning the school community will benefit from regular worship and other events led by him. I look forward to further developing and strengthening the links between school and the church.

2022-23 dates sheet

You have already been sent the dates sheet for 2022-23 so please ensure you are aware of events that are happening in school. There is, as always, a lot going on, and a great deal of information has already been given to you. There may be slight alterations or additions to the dates so please keep an eye on emails and other communications from school.

Uniform

Children have returned to school looking very smart in their uniform – many thanks for your support with this. It has been noted, however, that the school uniform supplier is taking a long time to fulfil orders. Please be aware that our policy does not stipulate that children have to wear the uniform with logos on it. Plain items of clothing in the correct colour are acceptable.

It does, however, stagger and baffle me as to how much uniform does not have a name in it and we have a huge amount that is not claimed, totalling hundreds of pounds! **Please ensure all uniform has a name written in it.** This also includes water bottles (containing water, not juice) and lunch boxes etc.

Please can I remind everyone that children should only wear stud earrings in school, no hoops, and that trainers are not permitted.

Once again, thank you for your support with this.



Home learning

Home learning for Term 1 has been sent out to you with details of the tasks that your children are expected to complete in the order of their choice. We shall, this term, be looking more closely at who is and is not completing learning as it is important that we celebrate and recognise the efforts children make. Please encourage children to complete their tasks, along with TT Rock Stars and reading every day (with a parent signing and commenting in the reading record to evidence this). Please speak to your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns about home learning.



Attendance and punctuality

It is great to see children coming into school at the new time of 8:45am in time for the gates to close at 8:50am. Once again, I thank you for your efforts with this. This year we shall be monitoring attendance more closely, and I must remind you that holiday requests cannot be authorised unless there are very specific circumstances in line with our policy. Please note that having good attendance is not a criteria for authorising a holiday request and unauthorised absence may lead to the issuing of a penalty notice. If your child is absent from school please telephone and speak with the office rather than emailing or leaving a voice message. Thank you.



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Sir John Sedley PFA

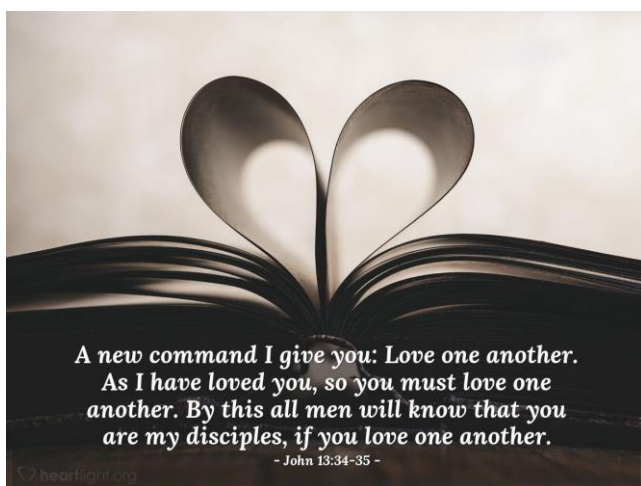
The PFA held their AGM last week and it was great to hear all the successes of the year. There are lots of plans in place for future fund-raising events including many Christmas activities, hot dog club and a disco!

A decision has been made to purchase some ipads for the pupils to use from some of the funds raised. Each class will also benefit from a workshop paid for by the PFA linked with an area of their learning, as well as a contribution to the cost of coaches for a trip. A huge thank you to the PFA and here's to another great year of fund raising for our children!

The PFA will also be helping to organise sales of school uniform that has been donated – look out for future information!

School Vision

As you know, the phrase 'Love to Learn, Learn to Love' underpins all that we do at Sedley's. As a school, we have worked hard to develop everyone's understanding of this, and of the values we also hold dear. Part of the ongoing work around our Christian distinctiveness has brought us to link our vision to a Bible story of great significance – A New Commandment. John Chapter 13, verse 34 – 35 illustrates what our school vision is about.....



Children have started the new school year thinking about the actions they are going to take to live out our vision and show love for others and for their learning.



Shiny Tickets!

Our children demonstrate a wealth of positive behaviours on a daily basis, and our behaviour policy recognises this. We believe it is important to notice, encourage and acknowledge the good stuff! We have now introduced 'Shiny Tickets' which children can earn if they are 'caught' doing something kind or caring, helpful or polite or something demonstrating our values. A shiny ticket goes into a weekly draw and one winner is chosen and they receive several little prizes! All tickets are kept and will go into a final year prize draw in July 2023!

Junior Leadership

This year we are planning to further develop leadership roles across the school for our pupils. On Friday 16th September we heard a wonderful selection of speeches from Year 6 pupils putting themselves forward as potential House Captains. I was so impressed with the effort they had taken with their speeches and the recognition of the qualities needed to be a good leader. We shall announce the winners very soon, but I would like to commend all children that stood in front of the whole school and presented their case – well done!

We shall also be appointing a Head Boy and Head Girl, Prefects, School Council and Eco Council members, and Leading Lights.

Playground development

As part of our curriculum offer we are looking at playground activities and have begun to introduce a wider range of resources for children to play with at lunchtimes, so that they have a variety of physical activity to choose from. We are awaiting some picnic tables so that we can continue to develop the area at the top of the playground as a quiet zone for children that would like to do something less noisy and active.



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Many children are currently bringing Pokemon cards in from home to play with when in the playground and this is currently working well. It is important that everyone is aware that if problems do occur as a result of these then we may have to reconsider them coming into school, however at the moment the children are really enjoying their social time with them!

We are looking to continue to develop the area with the pergola and will be installing seating so that it can be used as an outdoor reflective space.



Do we have any parents that are keen gardeners or who may have some plants they might donate to the school? We would like to get the pots around the playground looking lovely so if you have any plants or compost that you could donate, or any time to plant them, then it would be very much appreciated and would contribute to making our school environment look lovely! Please get in touch if you have anything you can help us with. Thank you in advance.

I am very much looking forward to this term and indeed to this coming academic year. We saw some great progress and growth last year and I am confident that we are going to continue to achieve even more together as we go into the new school year, helping all children, staff, parents and governors to flourish.

Best wishes

Miss Field

Some upcoming dates for your diary.....

20 th Sep '22	After school clubs begin
30 th Sep '22	Staff training day – no children to attend.
4 th Oct '22	Parent workshop – early literacy for Parents of children in Year R, 1 and 2.
5 th Oct '22	Harvest Festival worship at St Nicholas' – all parents welcome @ 2:30pm
10 th Oct '22	Hello Yellow Day! Children to wear yellow to school for £1 contribution.
17 th Oct '22	'Take One Community' week – themed curriculum week for pupils.
20 th Oct '22	End of Term 1
1 st Nov '22	Staff training day – no children to attend.
2 nd Nov '22	Term 2 starts
10 th Nov '22	9:15am & 1:45pm Open day for prospective Reception pupils – please contact office to book.

And finally, I could not write a newsletter at this current time without talking about the sad passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Here at Sedley's the whole school community were saddened by the news and we came together to support and share this sad time.

I am sure that you would join with me in the following prayer from the Diocese of Rochester.

Blessed Jesus,
Lord of Lords and King of Kings,
we give you thanks
for our late sovereign, Queen Elizabeth II,
for the grace and mercy
she received from you,
for all that she reflected
of your gracious sovereignty,
and for the great love she held
for you and for her people.
Enfold her in your everlasting arms,
grant her rest
and raise her up at the last
in the company of the saints in light. **Amen**