



Urchfont C. E. Primary School

Cuckoo Corner, Urchfont, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 4RA

Tel: 01380 840793

Email: admin@urchfont.wilts.sch.uk

6th September 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our new families and welcome back to everyone returning for this new academic year. I hope everyone had a super summer holiday.

The staff have been busy making the school look fresh and ready to start another exciting year. Our roofing contractors completed their work during the holidays and the ICT suite has been rewired after squirrels ate through wiring in the attic causing us to decommission it for many months. We have also had 15 new laptops installed in the ICT suite and have swept away all the old technology that we had. This will enable our staff to teach the updated requirements of the computing curriculum.

My continued thanks goes to parents who use Parent Pay and check the school Facebook page. However, I would urge all parents to read the weekly Peek of the week carefully as it is the main way we communicate what is happening in school, ie if clubs are being cancelled. Last year we introduced class email addresses so parents can contact teachers directly with short messages or queries. However, these emails may not be checked daily so please contact the school office via admin@urchfont.wilts.sch.uk if you have an urgent message for school staff.

The emails addresses are:-

Robins – robins@urchfont.wilts.sch.uk

Chaffinches – chaffinches@urchfont.wilts.sch.uk

Woodpeckers – woodpeckers@urchfont.wilts.sch.uk

Owls – owls@urchfont.wilts.sch.uk

We are pleased that Parent Pay has eased paying for educational visits, swimming etc. Please remember that you can also give permission for your child to attend an event/visit etc using Parent Pay. A tick of a box is all we need. Last year, I reminded parents that they will receive an initial communication about an event and one reminder. This may be sent to individuals or to the group/class. We do have a policy in place that if no permission is received following the reminder we will assume that you do not give permission and your child will not attend the event and will remain in school. I'm sorry if that appears unfair but my office staff cannot waste the time they have chasing permission from parents. I am also repeating my request from last year asking parents to make their voluntary contributions one week before the event, as we will need to assess whether we can cover the costs. If not, the visit may need to be cancelled.



This term we will be holding Welcome Back to School meetings as well as the Year 3 & 4 residential visit to the Legge House. We have taken on board comments made by parents regarding the timing of the first set of parents meetings and therefore, to make them even more meaningful, we will be holding these after the half term break. A full set of dates will be published in the first Urchfont Update of the year.

USPA will be holding their AGM on the 10th October at 7pm at The Lamb. I urge as many parents to attend as possible as I have been informed that the current chair and some of the committee members are stepping down. USPA work tirelessly to provide the children with resources and extras that the school is unavailable to provide. If you would like more details of USPA activities, then please contact members of the current committee. The school office can direct you to these members if you are unsure of whom they are. Any help to USPA is important so please attend the AGM even if you can only spare some time at some of the events.

Please remember we operate an open door policy. I try to be visible before and after school in the garden room area if you need a quick word or you can make an appointment if you require a private word with me or my staff. If you have messages to give to the class teacher such as changes to who's collecting your child, please come to the main reception and the office staff will direct you to the message sheets. If you have an urgent message regarding the pick-up of your child/ren, please phone the office as emails may not be read as soon as they might need to be.

Yours Sincerely,



Mrs Carol Talbot
(Head Teacher)

