

# Headteacher's Newsletter to Parents 7th November 2019



Dear Parents/Carers,

I know that this can be a very busy time of the year for many of you and there is lots to remember and to do. It is the same in school in the run up to Christmas, so I am sending you some up to date information which has relevance for you and your child.

*Fiona*

## PARENTS' EVENING CHANGE OF DATE -

Please note that the date of parents' evening this term has been changed to **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December** from 3.30 until 6.00. This is your opportunity to meet with your child's teacher and discuss their progress. Representatives from the Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy and our school Educational Psychologist will also be there and you will be able to speak with them informally.

Further details to follow.

## MacMillan Coffee

**Morning:** we raised a magnificent £340. Huge thanks to all of you that supported this event and to the staff and children who made and sold items.



## INVITATION TO PARENT'S CONSULTATION AND COFFEE MORNING – 14<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 9.30AM – 10.30AM:

Dear Parent/carers

We will be coming to Watergate school at 9.30am – 11.am on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November and would like to invite you to an informal coffee morning. We would like to share the new draft SEND Strategy 2020-2023 with you, the strategy contains the plans for the future of all education, health and social care for the next three years in the Lewisham borough. We would really love to hear your thoughts and ideas as parents and carers of young people with special education needs and/or disabilities.

We hope you can make it and look forward to meeting with you.

Victoria Lucking and Cheriece Nelson, Children with Complex Needs and Disabilities Team for Lewisham Local Authority

Please come along and **HAVE YOUR SAY.**

## £50 Shopping Voucher!

– enclosed with this newsletter is an invitation to take part in a study about shopping in Lewisham.

If you take part you will be eligible for a £50 Voucher.

## PARENT SURVEY

It is really important that you have the opportunity to tell us what you think about the school: what works well for you and anything you would like to change. We also need to arrange some parent meetings, please let us know what topics you would like covered in workshops, or if you would like an informal group where you can meet and chat with other parents. Please complete the attached survey and return it to the Admin Team as soon as possible. You will also have the opportunity to fill them out at Parents' Evening.



### CHILDREN IN NEED 2019

As usual we

will be planning & participating in activities at Watergate school. Focussing on physical skills; swimming, walking, dancing 'moving; cycling, sitting etc. We will not be requesting sponsorship / donations, aware that for many finances are stretched. You may wish to make a personal contribution or if you would like to send something to school we will ensure it goes to Children in Need. As always thank you for you continued support & generosity, always appreciated.

Watergate School Council.

**Corridor Names:** *it was brought to my attention that the corridors in school are often called the infant and junior corridors and I know that this has caused some confusion as our class groupings are arranged according to individual need and ability, not just by age. This has meant that for some of you, you may have felt that your child has been moved 'up' too soon or 'held back', when this is not actually the case as this is not the model we use. For this reason, we have decided to re-name the corridors.*

*Staff recently suggested names for them on the theme of 'inspirational people in special education'. We then voted and the corridor with Red, Green, Blue, Yellow and Violet classes is now called Longhorn after Flo Longhorn and the corridor with Purple, Pink, Peach, Silver, Gold, Aqua, Orange and Lime classes is called Lacey after Penny Lacey. Both of these women have been incredibly influential in the development of special education thinking and practice.*

### Newsletter by Email

I am sure many of you would prefer to receive communication from school by email. To opt in please send an email to [admin@watergate.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@watergate.lewisham.sch.uk) titled NEWSLETTER and telling us whose parent/carer you are so we can update our records.