



# SLIMBRIDGE

primary school

Newsletter 1 07.09.16

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to all our children and families, it was great to see the children back in the playground on Monday, it makes the school feel alive. It was also lovely to see our new reception children and their families join us on Tuesday, all very smart in their new uniforms. We are looking forward to getting to know you and your children over the coming months.

On a personal level, thank you to everyone you has stopped me to say they watched the Olympics and supported Jamie. I plan to do an assembly to share our experience in a couple of weeks time. A glorified look at my holiday photographs.

This year we are making a few changes to our expectations of children both in and out of the classroom. We are asking the children to take pride in their appearance and our uniform, to line up quietly on the playground when coming into school and moving around the school. We always want the children to achieve their full potential and after our work on handwriting last year we will continue to praise well presented work and some staff will be running handwriting clubs. This year we will focus on spelling and we have made some changes to our approach, we would really appreciate your support with this. Each class will be posting their plans on the class website pages, so please check the website for information.

We often talk about how you can support your child with their learning, and you might think that is our job. But you would be surprised how much **YOU** inspire your children. A recent report in the TES asked children who they were inspired by;

6.4% named a celebrity, like superstar footballer Cristiano Ronaldo  
22% named their dad  
34% named their mum

So please don't underestimate your influence! It is really important to use that influence in a positive way. At school we avoid saying 'you are clever' or similar fixed mindset statements and instead praise effort, thoughtfulness, perseverance etc. We believe with perseverance and resilience all our children can learn successfully and build their confidence. Nobody learns things first time and they need the skills to keep going. So please support us with this. We often use the phrase 'I can't do this yet'.

Sometimes we hear parents say 'I wasn't good at .....'. That gives your child an immediate excuse not to try. My Dad wasn't good at maths so I can't be good at maths. So please, please, please even if you found a particular area of learning difficult, tell your children you loved it! Help them with their homework, be involved and interested and smile, being confident is very powerful.

Remember, to your children, you are more important than all the stars of sports, films and fashion.

Regards  
Alison Cooke

## IMPORTANT DATES.

Monday 12th September—  
Swimming starts for Year 2 & 3

Friday 16th September—  
Fundraiser for Henry Bromberg. WEAR A RAINBOW.

Tuesday 20th September —Yr 6 to S. Cerney Cluster event.

Friday 7th October— Class 5  
Cake Sale

Wednesday 19th October—  
Harvest Festival 2.00pm at the Church

Thursday 20th October—INSET  
DAY—Staff attending a Talk for Writing Conference.

Friday 21st October—INSET,  
staff on Safeguarding training

Thursday 10th November—  
School Photos (Individuals)

W/B 14/11/16—Parent Progress Meetings.

Celebration Assembly  
Every Friday at 2.30pm  
All family members welcome.

## PARKING!

The British Legion will **not** be available for parking **this Friday**. We will run a drop off area next to the safety barriers outside the school.

## UNIFORM.

Please ensure your child has the correct uniform, including black shoes and a PE kit in school at all times.

All uniform should be clearly named so we can reunite lost sweatshirts with bewildered children.

Second hand uniform is available from the office

A 2016-17 calendar has been sent to every parent by email, we will add specific dates throughout the year but we are hoping this will allow parents to get organised for the big events.

Dates may change.

Thank you.

All the staff at Slimbridge Primary School would like to thank parents and children for their generous gifts at the end of the last academic year.