

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year!

Although only the first full week in school it's been a busy week at West Horndon Primary School! Highlights this week include:

- *Early Years Expert Shonette Bason working with our Early Years Team who shared their best practice with visitors from other schools.
- *Our football team taking part in the EFL 6-aside cup at Colchester United.
- *The official handover of our new staffroom, library and kitchen classroom from the builders ready for the grand opening on Monday!

Uniform and PE Kit Expectations

May I remind parents that children should have a complete change of clothing for indoor and outdoor PE lessons in school daily. They are not able to wear their normal shoes, sweatshirts or coats for PE. **Indoor PE should be black shorts and a red T-Shirt.** Our preference for the additional layer for **outside is black tracksuit bottoms and a red hoodie or sweatshirt.** (Red hoodies are available from the TESCO uniform website). They need plimsolls for indoor PE and suitable trainers or their plimsolls for outdoor PE. Please also ensure that pupils are not wearing nail varnish and that hair bows are of a reasonable size!



As you will know we do lots of learning outside, especially with the younger children and those in the Early Years Foundation Stage where it is a requirement. All children regularly take part in Forest School sessions. Please, please make sure your child has enough warm and waterproof clothing available in school **everyday** as some of our pupils are still ill equipped for learning outside. We no longer have any 'spare' clothing available in school.



If snow or other severe weather means I have to make the decision to close the school, parents will be notified by text, classDojo and via the school website. We make every effort to stay open.

I must be confident that I have enough staff who are able to arrive (and return home safely) to ensure pupil safety and that the school site is safe. It is a difficult balance between making an early 'call' to provide parents with the maximum amount of warning and waiting to see if the weather changes. Fingers crossed it's not an issue this year!



We have tweaked our dinner menus to reflect feedback from pupils and numbers of meals ordered. Please see the website and the attachment to this email for details.

A date for your diary- The Dark Web - Monday 30th January 2017 @ 7-9pm

We cannot encourage you enough to attend so that you are fully informed about this crucial area of your child's development and the risks they face.

Yours sincerely

Matt O'Grady,
Headteacher

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