

Court Lane Schools Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our Reading themed Pause Week was a fantastic start to the half term, demonstrating how much our children love books. Celebrating World Book Day with dressing up and stories was a highlight of the week. Both schools were able to raise additional funds for even more books through the Infant 'Sponsored Read' and the Junior 'Travelling Book Fair'. Orders are being placed and we look forward to having even more books for children to enjoy. Thank you so much!

Infant Usborne sponsored read

We were blown away with the amount of money raised – a massive **£3522.30!** As if that wasn't enough, Usborne will also be donating an additional 60% of monies raised on top so the school will have **£5635.68** to spend on brand new Usborne books for your children.

Junior Travelling Book Fair

As well as children being able to browse and choose new books to take home, Scholastic Books have donated **£1530.64** for our school libraries.

Red Nose Day amount raised

We were greeted with a sea of red and crazy hair galore as part of our Red Nose Day activities in School in February. Thank you to everyone who made a donation. £350 was raised with an additional £75.25 in Gift aid!

Junior daffodil sale

The Young Gardeners held their charity daffodil sale in March, after planting 300 daffodil bulbs in the Autumn. They choose to raise money for The Alan Sansom Brain Tumour Charity as he helped at Young Gardeners and in the school. They were delighted to raise £130. Thank you to all involved.

Parents and Carers surveys

Thank you to everyone who has completed the Infant and Junior School Parental Surveys. The Infant results were emailed home on Monday, a copy can also be found on the school website. The Junior survey closed on Tuesday and the results will be distributed after the Easter break.

Free school meal voucher scheme – Easter break

For families in receipt of benefit related free school meals, you will have received a £50 voucher on 23rd March. This was emailed from Edenred. Please check your spam/junk folder. Vouchers need to be redeemed by 23rd June 2022 and will be valid for a year from date of redemption.

Junior School Planters

As part of our forthcoming Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations we would like to create a patriotic eye catching display with our class planters. Mrs Beer has kindly donated seeds that will be in bloom by May. If you would like to donate RED, WHITE or BLUE flowers for your Junior child's class planter they would be gratefully received. Thank you.



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Dates for your diary

Fri 8th April – Break up for Easter

Tues 19th April - National offer day for 2022 Yr R & Yr 3 Sept entry

Mon 25th April – First day of Summer term

Thurs 28th April, 9am – Infant children's positive mental health and wellbeing coffee morning

Fri 29th April – Yr R visit to Longdown Activity Farm

Mon 2nd May – Bank holiday, **school closed**

Tues 3rd May – School holiday, **school closed**

More info

www.courtlaneinfant.co.uk

www.courtlanejunior.co.uk

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Online safety

National Online Safety have developed a guide on how to support children with upsetting content which you may find useful. With the world currently experiencing many uncertainties including the war in Ukraine and the impact of Covid-19, children may be exposed to unsettling stories and images. The guide, included with the email attachment, has a number of tips which encourage your child to ask questions, setting limits and emphasises hope.

Caterlink survey & kitchen vacancies.

We would appreciate it if you could complete a short online [survey](#), to provide feedback on the catering provision supplied through Caterlink. Caterlink are looking for new team members to join their kitchen teams. If you are interested in finding out more, contact Martina Gibbs via email. mgibbs@caterlinkltd.co.uk

School Crossing Patrol vacancies

We are aware that the roads local to school will soon be without crossing patrollers. Portsmouth City Council are currently recruiting and have asked us to share the [advert](#) within our school community. They are also in touch with local councillors for their support with this.

Punctuality and attendance

As schools, we continue to monitor children's attendance and whilst we are aware of the impact of Covid and other childhood illnesses we have to ensure that we follow up where attendance is below 90%. There is an expectation that attendance is at 95% and above. Punctuality is important to ensure that your child is able to start the school day with their peers and not feel uncomfortable when arriving late. Please remember that the bell rings at 8.50 a.m. and that the gate will close at this time.

Price & Buckland – uniform price increase

We have been informed by Price & Buckland a small price increase may apply to some items from 1st April. To help parents, they are offering free returns on all orders and are investigating opportunities such as free delivery on orders over a certain value.

Hosting Ukrainian families

Please do get in touch if you have offered to host a Ukrainian family and anticipate that children will need places at our schools. The family will need to contact Portsmouth Admissions directly as well.

Environmental tip – packed lunches

When making lunch for children to bring to school, it's a good idea to invest in reusable lunchboxes, instead of food in plastic or paper bags that get thrown away. Try and avoid using cling film if an item needs to be wrapped, environmentally friendly materials like beeswax are a good alternative.

Term Dates

Break up for Easter

Friday 8th April 2022

First day of Summer Term

Monday 25th April 2022

Bank Holiday

Monday 2nd May 2022

School Holiday

Tuesday 3rd May 2022

Half term

Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June 2022

INSET Day

Monday 6th June 2022

Last day of term

Friday 22nd July 2022

2022-23 INSET Days

Thursday 1st September 2022

Friday 2nd September 2022

Thursday 24th November 2022

Friday 25th November 2022

Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Monday 5th June 2023

Join the Juniors on Social Media



@CourtLaneJuniorSchool



@CourtLaneJunior

Contact us

023 92378890 (Infants)

023 92375444 (Juniors)

inbox@courtlaneinf.co.uk

admin@courtlanejnr.co.uk

Court Lane Schools Newsletter

Who or What is a Governor? by Glynis Alexander, Joint Chair of Governors



Welcome to the part of the newsletter that will hopefully allow you all to know a little more about the individuals who make up the Governing Body of the Court Lane Schools.

My role at present (and for the past six years), is that of one of the Chair of Governors, a role that is chosen at the beginning of each school year and ratified by Chichester University Trust. I work with the two Headteachers, the Trust and my fellow Governors (which includes two members of staff, two parents and a number of co-opted governors). Our Clerk keeps us within the law and under control making sure that we have a good understanding of all educational areas in both our meetings and in our monitoring.

A key part of our role is that we continually question when unsure, request further information to help decision making, seek clarification to support understanding and ensure value for money. We are encouraged to further our own knowledge by taking part in training sessions held by the Trust and local authorities whilst engaging in more specific areas of study through the National College. It supports us in being aware of the continuing development of educational concepts when discussing areas of your children's journey from Year R to 6 and beyond. All of this in order to assist the learning and welfare of all who study and work within the two schools.

Myself, I have been in education for over fifty years as a teacher and senior leader, in Junior, Middle and Secondary schools both in this country and abroad. Latterly I worked for several universities and schools training teachers, and have been a governor in total, for over 16 years. At present I am also the Chair of Governors in two other schools, a Junior and a large Secondary. This has further supported my understanding of the journey your children make and the way in which they learn and develop their skills through each stage.

As a person, I am a mother of two and grandmother of five whose ages range from 9 -21. In speaking to them I have been made very aware of how difficult these past two years have been, both academically and mentally for them and their families, and how important it is that we continue to give all the support and encouragement we can to help them move on. My admiration for the manner in which schools have modified the way in which have taught, both in school and by remote learning, knows no bounds. Many of the good ideas and changes that have come out of Lockdown will no doubt continue to be adapted to enhance the learning and development of the children in their care.

You can be assured that at the Court Lane Academies, the staff have your children at the heart in all they plan and do and are very aware of their precious cargo and the very important part you play in their development. Between us we can make such a difference to their futures.

As a Governing Body we are very proud of our staff and pupils for their continued determination, diligence and resolve to move forward and to aim high. We have all learnt from the past year or so, some things we will take on board, others we will leave behind. The Court Lane Schools will continue to grow and learn as a whole with your child at its heart.

Kind regards

Glynis