

25<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Dear Parents

I am sitting on a coach returning from Norfolk having spent the week away with Year 6. I spent all last weekend praying that nothing would get in the way of Year 6's trip to Hilltop (like a positive covid-19 test), and thankfully my prayers were answered! We set off last Monday morning and have had an action packed week of archery, climbing, abseiling, tree-top walks, biking, zip-wiring, team building, walking, eating, fun and games! To say we are all exhausted is an understatement! Being mum and dad to nearly 60 children is no easy job! By the time you read this, I hope we have arrived back to Southgate with a suitcase full of dirty washing and a life time of memorable moments. A big thank you to Mrs Hindle who organised the week with military precision, ably supported by Mrs Moruzzi, Miss Murphy and Christine. Thanks also to Mrs Warrington who has taught 3G in Miss Murphy's absence and Mrs Young and Mrs Tissot who have had the pleasure of working in 4G!

I am looking forward to being back at school next week (and being in my own bed!)

**Supporting your child to be independent** – I have come across a useful document for parents to help support their children to become more independent. You may think that doing things for your child is good parenting, but you're not helping them to be a fully independent individual. I suggest all parents have a thorough read of it (see attached). Year 5 parents/children may especially want to read it before they go on their residential next year!

**Emailing the school office** – If you need to email the school office, please would you include the full name of your child as well as their class as it's sometimes difficult to know who parents are talking about, especially if their surname (on the email) is different to their child's.

**Class Photos** – On Wednesday, each class will have their photo taken, so please come to school looking your best. If you have PE that day, bring your kit in a bag to change into.

**Road Safety Concerns** – If you're picking up your child after 4pm (eg from tutoring sessions), please ensure younger siblings are not using Cannon Road as a playground. Children have been running, scooting and cycling in the middle of the road with seemingly no awareness that residents can drive up and down at any time. Also, please do not scoot/cycle in the car park area as some staff cars have now been scratched.

**Parking** – There is a family with young twins who live in the flat next to the Parish Centre and they have had cause to email me. Please read their message which I received earlier this week:

*Good afternoon,*

*We are the tenants at Monica's parish centre flat. Most days around 9am and 3pm school drop off time "some parents" are blocking our driveway. Yesterday, early in the morning around 8.15am the driveway was completely blocked and we couldn't use our car. Instead left with no choice we had to walk our 4 year old twins to their nursery. It's a long 20 min walk especially when you try to be there on time. It's an ongoing issue (9 years) but this is this first time I am bringing it to your attention. I hope, with your help, some parents will get the message that "We need access to our flat at all times" especially now with our twins. I would really appreciate if you could add this to your mail bulletin and I hope "some parents" will be more sensible when parking. Thank you for your time. Kind regards*

The resident has provided a photograph showing numerous cars blocking their car in, which I will email to all parents next week if the situation doesn't improve. Please can I respectfully request that you park considerately around the school area and not over peoples' drives.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Kate Baptiste, Headteacher