

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 1/11/17: Photos
- 3/11/17: Own Clothes day
- 3/11/17: EYFS workshop for parents
- 9/11/17: Year 6 visiting Kent College
- 11/11/17: Choir performing at St Andrews Church
- W/B 13/11/17: National Anti-Bullying Week
- 15/11/17: Choir singing during village lunch
- 17/11/17: Children in Need (information to follow)
- 23/11/17: SSCO Sports Leaders Day Upper KS2



Capel Contact



3 1 / 1 0 / 1 7

Young Leaders



In this October 2017 edition of the Capel Contact I will share news of our Head Boy and Girl investiture, our Harvest feedback, initial feedback from learning conferences, outcomes from the 11+ and other WOW learning across the school.

Firstly, I would like to congratulate Oliver and Darcey for being voted in as our 2017/18 Head Boy and Girl. Many members of Class 6 gave truly inspiring speeches, which invoked pride and passion throughout our school. I was personally very impressed by the way they used their public speaking skills to get across the ideals and initiatives that will make the school even better. Following the whole school vote, our two successful candidates attended an investiture assembly with their parents. Both Oliver and Darcey took their success with modesty and a commitment to achieving what they promised. They both wrote new Capel pledges, which they promised to uphold before the school and their parents. I have absolutely no doubt that both of these students will achieve great things with their new responsibilities. They will be role models for all and I encourage our whole

school family to talk to them about their vision!

October also saw our school community donate a significant amount of food for our Harvest Festival. To celebrate the occasion each class presented something related to the Harvest, which saw students singing, acting and showcasing their artistic skills (some shown in the left picture). Following this assembly, our Year 6 pupils delivered the collected food to some of our local community. I really believe that our children being able to independently and personally support their local community brings an even deeper purpose to this event and promotes values that will be lifelong. I would like to thank everyone who donated and supported our festival.

In the last week of Term 1 we saw the launch of a new initiative, Learning Conferences. I would like to thank all our pupils, parents and staff for embracing this new idea with such commitment and openness. The benefits of being a small but risk-taking community cannot be underestimated and it pleases me to see us remaining on the cutting edge of education. The feedback levels from parents were huge and I

will explore this in detail in a separate letter. Headline information, from the 112 responses, showed that in terms of our core purpose (seeing children develop reflections and plan future learning) an average of 8.2 (on a scale of 1-10) felt this was achieved, which is very positive and shows true impact. Furthermore, 70% of the responses wanted to see Learning Conference continue at Capel. This number jumped significantly when considering families wanting a mixture of Parent Consultations and Learning Conferences. A few key positives were noted as pupil confidence, relationship with teachers, pupil led approach resulting in pupil action and support of developing lifelong 'interviewing' skills. Some points for consideration were time, ability to raise 'sensitive' issues and capacity for deep assessment discussions. I will collate responses and share a more detailed, subsequent letter with you in due course. Once again, thank you for engaging in such a new and unique approach, which clearly benefited our students.

Cont Pg. 2

Young leaders cont...

Finally, I want to congratulate all the students who partook in the Kent 11+ (PESE tests) this year. Earlier this month they received their results and I am pleased to share that 10 of the 15 students who took the test passed. This is the highest pass rate for Capel Primary School. For those that were unsuccessful, I would like to remind them that no test will ever define them and that as long as they did their best then they should be proud of themselves. Year 6 families need to select their Secondary School by the end of the day and I hope they all get their first choices!

I would again like to thank all our community for your on-going support and I hope November is filled full of new, meaningful learning experiences for your children. As always, please feel free to use our open door policy to share any concerns or successes so we can continue to develop our community.

Mr. Taylor

Year 6: Dover Castle



Our Year 6 children were lucky enough to visit Dover Castle this month. I have read some of their reports from the day, which present what they learnt from the experience. The main focus of the visit was the World War 2 tunnels, which have been used to present information about Operation Dynamo. The children have told me how they listened to key speeches, analysed war plans, questioned the role of Sir Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill and saw the weaponry used before exploring the consequences of Operation Dynamo and Dunkirk. This topic always inspires our students and it is amazing to see them developing a true understanding of how the past shapes life today!

Open Classrooms

All years held an open classroom during Term 1. I truly hope you were able to attend one to see your children's books, learning space and chat informally with their teacher. If you weren't able to attend, note that these will be a regular occurrence this year so we can continue to build the links between home and school! The feedback I have had from these events have been very positive and I know the children have been very keen to show you the work they are proud of.



Car Wash!



A few Year 6 children held a Saturday Car Wash in the Capel Primary School car park! The initiative, run by Mrs Farr and Mrs Haffenden, is built around students fund raising for their residential trip. This work therefore reduces the costs paid by their parents and encourages the ownership that we look to develop in our students. I am pleased to share they have now collectively raised £410, which seems to be the start of a viable business idea!

October STARS!

Our students are always striving to show the upmost effort and achieve the highest accolades. These children have been recognised for their sustained behaviour for learning over October!



Our Mission:

“Capel Primary School educates and inspires children to become successful and fulfilled lifelong learners”.

Year 6 Jacob & Ben
Year 5 Ruby & Isabella
Year 4 Archie & Sam
Year 3 Edward & Harvey
Year 2 Helaina & Kaci
Year 1 Oscar & Harrison

Well done to each of them!



Headteacher Challenge

I have three riddles for you this month. If children can answer all three then they will receive that many house points. Good luck!

- 1) What runs but never walks, has a mouth but doesn't talk and has a bed but doesn't sleep?
- 2) What gets wetter the more it dries?
- 3) What 8 letter word can have a letter taken away and it still makes a word. Take another letter away and it still makes a word. Keep on doing that until you have one letter left. What is the word?

You can impress me even more if you can challenge me with your own!

Capel Primary School
Five Oak Green Road
Tonbridge
Kent
Headteacher@capel-tonbridge.kent.sch.uk

Learning today for tomorrow!

