

Combe Primary Newsletter



Headteacher’s News

I have now come to the end of my second week at Combe and am very grateful to parents, children and staff for the warm welcome I have received.

It has been a busy week for the children. On Wednesday Y3/4 visited the National History Museum in London. World Book Day on Thursday was great fun and we even had a visit from a giant inflatable dinosaur (see photograph opposite). Today the children have celebrated International Women’s Day so make sure you ask them about it!

I am looking forward to continuing to get to know the school community and hope to see parents at the FoCS Comedy Night and at the Parent Forum meetings next week (details of both below).

Mrs Rachel Joannou

The School Day

The current allocation of ‘teaching time’ is below the recommended minimum set by the Government. This is particularly significant in KS2 where the children are below the recommended minimum by 1 hour 25 minutes a week. In order to increase the teaching time, we have looked at the current school timetable and have made adjustments to use time more efficiently. However, to ensure that all children have the correct amount of teaching time, we need to adjust the start and end times of the school day. This decision has been made by the Governing Body to set the start and end times as follows:

	EYFS/KS1	KS2
Doors open	8:40-8:50	8:35-8:45
Official start time	8:50	8:45
Official end time	3:05	3:10

The new timings of the day will begin on Tuesday 23rd April, the first day back after the Easter break. I hope parents will support the decision to ensure all children receive the full allocation of teaching hours. If you have any concerns about this you are welcome to speak to me.

Diary Dates

Monday 11th March– Year 5
Group 2– Bikeability session 1

Tuesday 12th March– Year 1/2
to Cogges Manor Farm

Tuesday 12th March– 2:30pm
and 5:30pm– Parents Forum

Wednesday 13th March– Year
5– Group 2– Bikeability session
2

Friday 15th March– Red Nose
Day

Friday 15th March– FoCS
Comedy Night

Wednesday 20th March–
Reception and Year 6– NHS
height and weight check

Thursday 21st March– World
Down Syndrome Day– Wear
odd socks to school!

Wednesday 3rd April–
10:30am– Easter Service

Friday 5th April– School closes
for Easter at 1:15pm

Red Nose Day

On Friday 15th March we will be raising money for Comic Relief by celebrating Red Nose Day. The school council have decided that they would like to host a talent show within the school day and that children can wear non-uniform for a contribution of £1.

It would be great to raise as much money as we can for this cause!

Parent Forum

On Tuesday 12th March, I will be hosting Parents Forum meetings. The meetings will take place from 2:30-3:00pm and 5:30-6:00pm. It would be great to see parents there.

A Parent Forum is a partnership between parents and the school. It is a valuable way to share ideas, views, concerns and make suggestions for improvement, especially as I am new to my role here.

The aims of the Parent Forum are:

- work together to improve the education provided for our children
- share information, knowledge and skills
- meet in a mutually supportive environment
- further improve communications between parent/carers and staff/governors

I will plan to meet parents in this way each half term.

Mrs Rachel Joannou

Behaviour for Life Winners

Rose B
Audrey
Jacob D
Nina
Matthew
Scarlett
Neve

DOJO Points Winners

Maddie
Aria
Digby
Ruby
Lori
Sasha
Chloe

FoCS News

Comedy Night- March 15th

After the runaway success of last year's Comedy night fundraiser, we have invited Flock Comedy Club back for another fantastic evening of entertainment on Friday 15th March. The Primary School hall will be transformed into a comedy club for a great night of entertainment and laughs. Doors open at 7:30pm with comedy starting at 8:00pm. We will have a well-stocked bar and raffle. Tickets can be purchased in advance and are just £13 each, available from School, Pre-School or Online at flockcomedy.com. This really is a great night and certainly not one to be missed.

There are tea towels still available, so please do make sure you buy one or two.