



Borden News

January 27th 2017

Church of England
Primary School

We aim to provide a happy, secure and Christian learning environment for all members of our school community

Dear parents and carers,

I am sure that most parents are aware of the proposed Wises Lane development. I am equally sure that parents are aware that this proposed development is very contentious and has caused much controversy in the local area. The Governors, Mr. Whitehead and myself have taken a neutral view as the decision whether the development goes ahead is not ours to make, influence, or comment upon. This level of decision making is not in our remit.

However, information has been made known to us that causes us great concern and seems to imply that our school is at risk either through an unsafe site or the inability to provide an appropriate education. Over the last 18 months the Diocese and KCC have committed to and completed a range of works that have improved our school. They have invested in an upgraded fire alarm system, a new boiler, electrical works, tree felling and the funding for major work on the chalk face has been found and a contractor engaged. These works have cost, and will cost, substantial amounts of finance showing a commitment by both the KCC and Diocese to our school.

The staff continue to work with enthusiasm and dedication to give the children in our school— your children- the best education that they can. The staff are committed to providing the best care too so that every child can develop to their full potential in every way. Academic achievement is only one way to judge a school but our school continues, both at KS1 and 2, to gain considerably higher results than the National averages. This cannot be achieved without a team ethos of parents, staff and children working together for the collective good. When I show visitors around the school they always comment upon the friendly, happy, vibrant feel that there is in our school.

Please read the response below from the Diocese and be reassured that our school is not unsafe or at risk.

[Response from Quentin Roper, Director of Education for the Diocese of Canterbury](#)

You may be aware that information has recently been issued by Quinn Estates relating to the proposed Wises Lane Development. The message conveyed details relating to a suggested relocation of Borden Church of England Primary School to address the requirements for new primary provision in the area. As strong advocates for the school, the Diocese has provided support in principle at an early stage to this proposal, subject to Kent County Council and other stakeholder consent.

The statement, which was prepared as part of representations to the County Planning Inspector, infers that the existing Borden Church of England Primary School is not considered fit for purpose. The Diocese would like to reassure all members of the school community that whilst it is true that there are issues relating to the fabric of the existing buildings, and the site itself, there are no immediate causes for concern regarding safety or standards, and the school continues to provide an outstanding educational provision for all pupils.

We will continue to keep you informed as to the progress of these developments which aim to bring much-improved facilities for children and families in the area.

If you have any question, queries or concerns please speak to me. If I can't answer then I will pass the question on to someone who can.

Sheila Dunk Head of School

Attendance Winners of the Week!

Chestnut Class with 99.6%!!!

AMAZING!



Sainsbury's Vouchers

Sainsbury's are giving out their vouchers again this year to support schools and their ability to "purchase" new equipment. Over the years we have received a wide variety of equipment through the voucher scheme— everything from football kit, skip-its, skipping ropes, hockey sticks, scooters for Willow, hoops right through to kitchen knives and wooden spoons and all different types of balls, hockey, football, netball, tennis, sponge etc.

A voucher is given for every £10 spent in supermarkets and on-line, £5 spent in local stores. The vouchers started on Wednesday this week. Every voucher helps us to provide new equipment. Please involve relatives, friends, neighbours work colleagues who may not have a school to donate their vouchers to. Thank you to people who have already sent some in.

It all went SWIMMINGLY well

On Tuesday 24th of January a celebration of achievement in swimming took place. Parents of Chestnut Class were invited to join the whole school in the hall to take part in the presentation of certificates. Every member of Chestnut Class received a certificate either for distance or for survival skills or water skills. Some times for both. This year there were 6 children who swam 5000 metres which is 200 lengths of the pool. Leo Sefton swam 5850 metres which is the furthest anyone has ever swum in the school.

WELL DONE EVERY ONE including all the helpers for your support.

Clothes Donation Day

Thank you to all parents who donated clothes of some sort on the donations day. They will all be put to good use over the next year. If you have not donated yet and would like to, please drop your donations into the office— they will be gratefully received.



Thought for the week

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear. The Lord is the strength; of my life of whom shall I be afraid. Psalm 27:1

6th—10th Feb, Travelling Book Fair week

7th Feb, Safer Internet Day

13th—17th Feb, Half Term

2nd March, World Book Day

Fri 10th Mar, Reports issued

22nd & 23rd Mar, Parent/teacher talks (Willow class 22nd only)

Fri 24th Mar, Red Nose Day

Fri 31st Mar, End of Term