

# Cavendish News

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2015

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[www.cavendishpta.org.uk](http://www.cavendishpta.org.uk)

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## WELCOME BACK!

It has been lovely to see the children return to school this week, and to welcome all our new starters. The 2015/16 school year has got off to a flying start. Reception classes are settling in well and will attend full time from Monday, and all other classes enjoyed the Big Adventure on Thursday. Each year group visited a venue in the morning that links with the topic they are studying in class, then we all joined forces at the Cheshire Showground for lunch, fun and games in the afternoon. Every child wrote down their wish for the year, attached it to a balloon and at 3.30pm we released the balloons into the air. Two have already been found – one in Sandbach, the other in Wolverhampton. We wonder where the next one will turn up? It was a great day, made possible by the hard work and enthusiasm of our entire staff and the many volunteers who came along to help. Thank you all, and especially to Mr. Griffiths, who masterminded the entire event.



## A COUPLE OF REMINDERS...

**Please remember** that school starts at 8.50am. Children need to be in their lines by that time. Cavendish teachers are always happy to talk to you about any concerns, or to pass on information, but please don't detain them in the mornings. Their priority is to get the children into school, complete the register, and then start the important business of teaching. Afternoons are much better for them once all the children have gone. You can always phone or email the office to make an appointment if you urgently need to talk to your child's teacher.

**Please remember** to read the newsletter every week. We will email it to you if we have your email address, we post it on our website, Facebook page and Twitter profile, and we can send home a hard copy if you can't access it electronically. We also keep spare copies in the leaflet carousel outside the school office. A list of key dates so far arranged for this term is included with this letter.

### MORNING LINE UP

We share your concern about the numbers of children and adults on the playground in the mornings, and the overcrowding on the main play area. We are therefore making a change for our Year 1 classes. We would like Year 1 children and parents/carers to wait and line up in the fenced off area that is adjacent to the annexe building. Their teachers will come out to collect the children from there, and a teaching assistant will be with them so that there is an adult at the front and the back of each Year 1 class line. We will be out on the playground next week to monitor the effectiveness of this change and plan more improvements. We thank you in advance for your co-operation.

### BUILDINGS UPDATE

Like you, we were disappointed and frustrated about the lack of progress with the buildings work over the six week break. We fully expected to return to work and find Shawgrove gone. You will have noticed that it is very much still with us. We have expressed our concerns to Manchester City Council and are awaiting more news. Obviously, a new works schedule will have to be drawn up for the demolition, and we will keep you posted about the situation.

### ROAD SAFETY

We will be continuing our focus on road safety around Cavendish. 630 children aged 3 to 11 years old now attend our school. Many of them travel to school by car, and if every car-driving parent/carer attempts to drop off their child within 10 metres of the front or rear gates, there will be chaos. It will also put those children who walk to school in immense danger. We therefore ask you to consider the safety of every single child, and to walk to school if possible. If you must use a car, please park further away then walk the rest of the way into school. The local police and traffic wardens will be making regular visits to the area, and school staff will also be monitoring the situation and reporting any unsafe or illegal issues to the relevant authorities.

**We understand that life is busy, you have places to be after dropping off the children, time is precious...but NOTHING is more precious than the children's well being, and we have a collective responsibility to keep them safe.**

### HERITAGE OPEN DAY

This year, for the first time, we are taking part in Didsbury's Open Doors weekend. The heritage weekend runs on Sat 12<sup>th</sup>/Sun 13<sup>th</sup> September, and provides an opportunity for local residents to see inside some of the beautiful civic buildings that grace our part of south Manchester. Our main building dates from 1904 and has some fabulous Art Nouveau features. We will be open from 10.30am to 2.30pm on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September. We hope that our visitors will include past pupils who can share their memories with us, but the open day might also be of interest to our newest parents and carers who haven't yet had time to see inside the main building properly.

There is more information about Didsbury Open Doors at:

<http://didsburycivicsociety.org.uk/events/heritage-open-days/>

### SHOUTOUT FOR THE PTA

Yesterday's Big Adventure, so greatly enjoyed by the children (and staff!), was part-funded by our PTA. Chaired by Dawn Lappin, the PTA works tirelessly throughout the year to raise money that enhances the experiences we offer to your children. If you aren't quite sure what being in the PTA will involve, why not come along to the first meeting of the new school year? It's taking place on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm in the staffroom** (first floor, main building). You don't have to commit to be at every event – if we have lots of people who can each help at one or two PTA events, it will lighten the load for everyone. The more, the merrier, and you are all a rich source of ideas for new things to do. It's a really good way to get to know other Cavendish parents and carers, it's fun, and it's very worthwhile because we make sure that all the children benefit from the extra money raised. So come along and find out more about how you can support your child's school.

**KEY DATES FOR THIS TERM** – these dates have been set, but as others are organised, eg for class trips, we will let you know about them.

Date	Time	Event	Location
08 Sept	3.30pm or 6pm (the 6pm is a repeat of the earlier meeting)	Y6 parent/carer meeting re. high school applications	Year 6 GD classroom
16 Sept	7.00pm	PTA annual general meeting – all welcome	Staffroom on first floor of main building
22 Sept	9.15am or 6pm (the 6pm is a repeat of the earlier meeting)	Reception parent/carer reading meeting	Ground floor hall
20/21 Oct	3.30pm onwards	Parent/Carer/Teacher appointments for Reception and Year 6	Classrooms
21 Oct	3.30pm onwards	Parent/Carer/Teacher appointments for Years N, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5	Classrooms
<b>23 Oct</b>	<b>All day</b>	<b>School closed for teacher training</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>26 to 30 Oct incl</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>School closed for half term</b>	<b>N/A</b>
02 Nov	8.50am	School re-opens	N/A
06 to 08 Nov	From 10am	Year 6 away at Robinwood	Robinwood Centre
09/10 Nov	All day	Individual photos being taken	School
17 Nov	All day	All children YR to Y6 having height & weight measurements taken	School
01 Dec	9am	Height/weight meeting for all parents/carers – how to access children’s results	Ground floor hall
02 Dec	10am/2pm	Nursery Christmas play	Ground floor hall
08 Dec	2pm	Reception Christmas play	Ground floor hall
09 Dec	10am	Reception Christmas play	Ground floor hall
10 Dec	2pm	Y3/4 Christmas play	First floor hall
11 Dec	10am	Y3/4 Christmas play	First floor hall
14 Dec	2.15pm	Y1/2 Christmas play	Ground floor hall
15 Dec	9.30am to 1.00pm	Pantomime for children	Ground floor hall
16 Dec	9.30am	Y1/2 Christmas play	Ground floor hall
17 Dec	11.30 to 2pm	School Christmas lunch	Dining room
<b>21 Dec to 01 Jan 2016</b>		<b>School closed for 2 weeks Christmas holiday</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>04 Jan</b>	<b>8.50am</b>	<b>School re-opens for spring term</b>	<b>N/A</b>