

Purbrook Junior School – Mr C Williams, Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Thursday 24th June – Race
for Life Cake Sale

Thursday 15th July – Year 5
visit to The Living
Rainforest

Wednesday 21st July – Year
6 Leavers Trip to Paultons
Park

Friday 23rd July – INSET
DAY



Headteacher's message

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to update you on the current situation that many of you will be aware of regarding a road traffic accident outside school on Monday involving one of our pupils.

I need to reassure you as a school we followed the correct procedures. We do not employ crossing patrol staff. This is something that is managed through Hampshire County Council.

When we were made aware that there would be no crossing patrol officer at the Elizabeth Road site, we enquired about a replacement for the absent member of staff or relocating one of the other crossing patrol staff down to this area from the Kentidge Road/Aldermoor Road East crossing. We were categorically informed that there were no other members of staff to replace the absent member of staff. We were also told that a member of staff could not be moved from Kentidge Road/Aldermoor Road East as they were not trained to manage crossing on this road.

Parents were informed of the lack of crossing patrol via ParentMail. It does remain the responsibility of parents and carers to get their children to and from school safely and I would advise that children and parents/carers take extra care while crossing, especially in the absence of a crossing patrol. I will be talking to the children in assembly next week about the importance of road safety.

Like you all, we are really angry that this has happened to one of our children and could have been avoided. We regularly send out information to all of our parents about parking and driving safely on our local roads and within our community. We ask drivers to be respectful of our community, local residents, pedestrians and OUR CHILDREN particularly at peak times. However, this appears to fall on deaf ears for some. Members of staff from Purbrook Infant and Purbrook Junior regularly monitor safety conditions near to the school and surrounding areas. It is our job to safeguard. Yet to some people this is still not enough and we are challenged for wanting to safeguard our children and families.

Sadly, I am not surprised there has been an accident... It has been waiting to happen for some time. The child in question has suffered a fracture to the arm/elbow. Whilst I am sad about this, it could've been far worse and unthinkable, a possible fatality. The incident was reported to the police by the parties concerned. The police are responsible for any investigations which may arise from this incident.



Please can everybody take this as a warning for our schools and neighbourhood. Being respectful of our community and roads is everybody's responsibility. I am headteacher of the school and not a traffic enforcement officer. I, or my staff, have no rights to stop traffic to allow children to cross the road safely. As schools, we ask you all to play your part. Thank you to the large majority who do follow the rules. If you see drivers making poor choices or doing the wrong thing then please take their number and forward it to the police.

Thank you to all of the drivers and pedestrians who do the right thing. It would be wonderful if we could all do the right thing and learn from this.

Thank you



Mr C Williams
Headteacher

COVID UPDATE:

Following the government's announcement earlier this week, I can confirm that we will not be able to hold our usual sports days and other end of term gatherings. We will do all we can at school to ensure that the children have alternative opportunities wherever possible.

Our current COVID control measures and risk assessments will remain in place for the time being. With cases once again rising across the country, we will do all we can at Purbrook Junior School to keep our school community safe. Please can I ask for your on-going cooperation and help for us to achieve this.

Further updates will be provided once more is known about the path out of lockdown in July.

Thank you