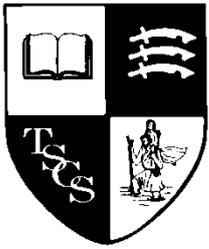


THE ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL

SEN Trust Southend



Academy Trust - Special School

Mountdale Gardens, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 4AW

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To All Parents/Carers

5 February 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

It is hard to believe it is now half way through another school year. We finish for the half term break on Friday 9th February at 3.00 pm and return on Monday 19th February. Hopefully we can shrug off the multitude of germs, coughs and colds over the half term break. It has been a virulent time for germs in both pupils and staff and has meant attendance has been lower due to these issues. Thank you for your patience and consideration.

It has been a very productive first half of the year with lots of progress made by the pupils. It was great to see so many parents at our secondary department parents' evening this week. We are very pleased to manage at least 70% attendance. This is especially good when we also have the annual review meetings as well. There will be a second primary parents' open evening next term as well so that you can see the progress since the beginning of the year.

Annual Parent/Pupil and Staff Questionnaire

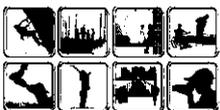
We like to ask every year how well we are doing and if there is anything else we can do to improve. Pupils are always honest in their assessments and come up with some interesting suggestions as to how we can improve. My favourite so far this year is "free swimming goggles and an ice cream van at the end of the field every day".

We have had 70 responses from parents so far but would really appreciate it if more parents could return their views. It all adds to how we can keep an eye on how things could be made better. If you didn't return a form another one is attached.

Pupils from the Learning Council were busy showing around some of our Governors last week. They took a number of them on tours of the school to explain how we are developing and using the 'learning powers' where pupils are making connections with their learning, trying new things and developing amazing back stories about the 'learning power' animals and how they have created their resilience or tried something new.

Business and Enterprise Centre

We are almost at the completion stage of increasing our facilities to further develop our Business and Enterprise Skills Centre. We are just waiting for the final approval from the Department of Education to complete the purchase of the house next to the school to then develop it to suit our needs. When the purchase is complete we will be designing the centre and adapting it to enable pupils to use a wide range of facilities including a café/cookery area, computer skills area, design and technology area and gardening centre in the grounds. This will enable pupils to further develop work related and learning skills to really use their 'learning powers' in project based activities.



LOtC Mark (Gold)

Learning Outside the Classroom



Southend-on-Sea

Part of SEN Trust Southend, a charity and company registered in England Number 07973980 – Limited by guarantee



Snow and Telephones

Apologies if you tried to ring the school on Monday morning. There was a failure of our telephone system in that we had outgoing calls but no incoming calls. We reported it as soon as we knew but the provider took some time to fix it. (It was very quiet though!)

Reminder- Bad Weather Procedure

In the highly unlikely event of us having to close or not open due to the weather conditions we will publish this information on the front page of the school website and let the local radio stations know (BBC Essex, Radio Essex and Heart FM).

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J Mullan". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Jackie Mullan
Executive Headteacher