



Jennett's Park CE Primary School

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OUR NOISE PLEDGE 2021-22

30.9.21

Dear Neighbours, parents and carers,

I'm writing to you as headteacher after having talked with our school council. Some of our children were genuinely really sad to think they'd upset anyone with their recent celebrations. We'd held our event in the summer for the 10th anniversary and had another a fortnight ago. Some of the children had been shown the comments on social media by parents. We could easily ignore the couple of questions or thoughts aimed at us as to why we're making so much noise. We've only received one direct email to us and one direct phone call in this last year. But nevertheless, the children and I thought it politer, more direct and nicer to write an open letter to all our community instead and make a few promises to you.

The past two years have been horrible for some and tolerable for the remaining others but with one major learning point- we are strong as a community. We as a school have made a promise to our parents and carers who choose us to help them live life in all its fullness and educate to serve the common good. We run regular charity events and hope to do even more across this year to help those in need.

Our school, indeed any school, will have loud patches in the day- break times, lunches, drama and sports if you recall from your own or your children's school days often create raucous or jubilant laughter! There are yearly events like summer fairs, sports days and visiting farms that also create a cornucopia of noise!

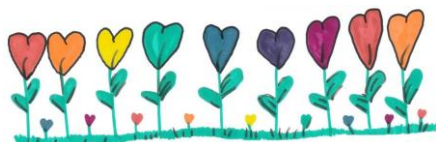
At the moment due to covid restrictions we have decided to hold some more events outside than we previously would- as you know it's not safe to cram everyone inside if we can safely head outside. It is not reasonable to not run events if we can adjust to hold them outside if possible. That is clearly in our guidance from the government.

But we don't want to annoy anyone vastly. We've not tried to be unkind and we do think about the length and timings before planning events. We try to vary the time of day.

Our school site is still new- we've only just celebrated our 10th anniversary. Many older more established sites have full barriers of trees and hedges to help stop noise travelling across to those facing us in any direction. Over the next year as part of the Queens Jubilee we'll take time to plant trees along the remaining edges but these will take time to establish. We'll also plant fast growing ivy, dogwoods and shrubs.

We're asking you as a community to come help us too- everyone will be welcome at our weekend planting events with a spade! We'll have cakes and tea for those that come. The dates will be forthcoming across the year and we promise to put them clearly on our website for people to see.

To help as some people are still working from home we've decided to make a list of the events so far we've planned that might make some noise across the year. None of these will be longer than 4 hours. Most are between hours



of 9-3. We won't ever turn the music to full volume- we have four very large interlinked stadium style speakers that could be heard at Easthampstead Park if we did! We promise not to do that.

Our list is so far:

- Steel pans- 12:30-3
- Earth song drumming 12:30- 3 date
- Wintershall players farm
- Divali performances
- Other farm visit.
- Sports day
- Summer fair
- Sports events like skipping , golf or dance workshops
- Charity events including fun runs, penny fairs, sponsored water fights.
- Music performances x 3
- Sleepover evening events.
- End of year production.
- Next years 'Grand day in.'

There may be other times when you can hear us rehearsing music outside but this will be without speakers. Our lunchtimes may occasionally have music playing too to get us all exercising. There may be times when we're outside and we're just very loud but we know now our voices travel!

We hope that this helps you. We've shared this list to our friends in the PCSO team so they know our promise too. Any further suggestions can be sent to us via secretary@jennetts.Bonitas.org.uk. Please direct messages here as we do not feel it right to directly respond to comments made on social media.

Kind regards



Liz Savage

Proud headteacher of Jennett's Park CE Primary and the School Council children year 2-6.

