

Newsletter

September 2018



Welcome back to a new school year.

I am really happy to be back at school and when I look around the school the children appear happy too!



WE LOVE BOOKS!

This year we have decided that "taking care of books" is going to be added to our school rules. Last year sadly lots of books were not looked after well in our school so we want to change that this year. Every class is going to create a reading corner where children will be encouraged to sit and look at books. We are going to do some fundraising to try and make these areas really inviting.

As well as this we are currently sorting out all the books that are damaged and need to be thrown away and then we are going to invest in new reading books, new library books and new books to add to the class books. We will have assemblies on taking care of books and talking about the joy of reading.

Parents often ask us if they can bring in sweets or cakes for birthdays and we always say no. We thought that it might be nice if instead you might like to donate a new book on your child's birthday and we will put a label in it to show that it celebrates your child's birthday. It will be read in class on that day and put into the class library for that year.



Harvest Festival

We will hold our annual harvest celebration on **9th October** this year.

Year 2 and Year 1 parents are invited at 9.15 a.m.

Reception parents are invited at 2.45 p.m.

Nursery children will have a celebration in the classroom and details will be sent home at a later date.

Please could all children bring in a food contribution for our harvest display? At the beginning of the assembly every child is invited to put their food on the display as part of the celebration.

Blue Track

You may have noticed that the paint on the blue track didn't last as long as we had hoped. The company had agreed to re-paint it. Unfortunately every time we set a date in the holidays, it rained. This of course is very unlucky as we have just had the hottest summer on record. We have been trying to find a time since Easter. Reluctantly I have now agreed to have the painting done on a school day, rather than wait until Christmas when the weather will be unreliable. As the work takes place outside there is no problem to the children, but last time a few parents said that the paint fumes lingered in the air and bothered severely asthmatic children waiting in the playground at the end of the day. Risk assessments show that there is no problem painting the track whilst the children are inside but I would like to offer parents who have children with asthma and might be affected, the opportunity to collect from the front of the school on this afternoon. During the morning most of the time will be spent taping up the playground and the painting takes place mostly during the afternoon and will be finished by 3.00 p.m.

On this day reception children should also be collected from the foyer.

The track is being painted on Thursday 13th September. Workmen will begin taping down the track from 8.00 in the morning so please make sure children stay clear from their work area.

If you are going to be collecting from the front of the school please tell the class teacher in advance so we can make arrangements.

On this day children will not be allowed to stay and play in the playground after school.

Year 1 and Year 2 Teachers will be inviting parents in for short meetings next week about class routines

- Year 1 meeting is Wednesday 12th September at 2.50 p.m. the playground gate will be open at 2.45 p.m.
- Year 2 meeting is Friday 14th September at 2.50 p.m. the playground gate will be open at 2.45 p.m.

School Meals

We had a few parents who had forgotten to order meals on the first day. No-one went hungry as we ordered extra jacket potatoes. Please remember to order meals, it may be easier to order for the whole term, or for a few weeks at a time. You can always log in and change your orders at a later date. If you have any worries or concerns please see Ms Harris in the office. Don't forget the school office doesn't open until 8.50 in the morning, so it is best to make sure your children are in class before going to the office.

Mornings

I know that lots of you want to bring children into school in the mornings and although the school day starts at 9.00 we open the doors at 8.50 to allow you to bring children in early and settle them.

Children in Y1 and Y2 should over the next few weeks become more independent and say goodbye to parents in the playground and will be praised for coming into school by themselves. All Y2 children should be able to come in independently by the end of the month and most of Y1.

I would also like to ask for your co-operation in leaving prams and buggies in the playground to help make it more comfortable for children in the morning. Just a few buggies outside a classroom can make the area feel overcrowded. When I am in the playground I will happily watch little ones in buggies but you are of course welcome to take babies and toddlers out of buggies to accompany you into school if you prefer.

On wet days please leave umbrellas in the main school foyer so that the floor doesn't get too wet.

Bikes and Scooters at the end of the day

Children should not ride their scooters or bikes in the playground until after 3.30 p.m. when the playground is less crowded. This is as a response to concerns about safety raised by parents.

Last year a few scooters went missing so please make sure they are named. Do not allow your child to play on a scooter that doesn't belong to them. It may be in the scooter park because a child is at a club and will be collecting it later. We often have tears because scooters are "borrowed" and left on the field or in places that they can't easily be found.

End of the day

The playground remains open at the end of the day for infant and nursery children to play. It is important that parents take responsibility for supervising children at this time.

Last year we had some problems with older children in our playground so this year I am going to ask that if older siblings are in the playground they stay with parents. No older children are allowed into the classrooms or buildings without an adult, and this includes the toilets.

Dates:

I know lots of you like to have these as early as possible. Please be aware that sometimes it is necessary to make changes as circumstances change.

- 12th September Y1 parents meeting about class routines 2.50
- 13th September - track being painted
- 14th September Y2 parents meeting about class routines 2.50
- 14th September school nurse talk for reception parents in the hall 9.00
- 24th September reception children full time
- 9th October harvest festivals
- 15th -18th October whole school topic week
- 19th October training day - school closed
- 22nd -26th October HALF TERM
- 14th November consultation evening 5.30-8.15
- 15th November consultation evening 4.00-6.00

- Christmas concerts
 - Reception & Nursery- morning 11th December
 - Reception & Nursery-afternoon 12th December
 - Y1 14th December
 - Y2 18th December
- 21st December last day of term - school closes at 2.15
- 7th January first day of term
- 11th -15th February Arts week
- 18th - 22nd February HALF TERM
- 6th March Consultation Evening
- 7th March Consultation Evening
- 21st March Exhibition Evening
- 3rd April Easter Assembly
- 4th April Easter Bonnet parade
- 5th April last day of term - school closes at 2.15
- 23rd April first day of term
- 27th -31st May HALF TERM
- 12th June sports day 9.00
- 19th June alternative sports day 9.00
- 2nd July Transition day
- Summer Concerts
 - Reception & Nursery 9th July
 - Reception & Nursery 10th July
 - Y2 12th July
 - Y1 16th July
 - Y2 Leavers 18th July
- Last day of term 19th July - school closes at 2.15

I hope you all have a happy term.

Mrs Julia Thomas

Headteacher