



Headteacher Newsletter

Believe in yourself, Value others, Be proud of your achievements, Smile, Shine, Be happy.



Welcome to the September newsletter.

We are pleased to welcome all of the new pupils to the school, they have all settled in well and after three days it seems like they have always been with us.

When I took the assembly this week I was so proud of the children. They were impeccable dressed in their uniform and proudly joining in with their learning. Therefore, I would like to say a huge thank you for your continued support parents and carers.



With this in mind I would like to ask if parents could support us with our school priorities this year. As you know communication is key to us and we endeavour to develop our pupils to be excellent communicators. Reading at home for pleasure as well as practising the skills learnt in school further at home is really important for developing this. You will notice extra books coming home shortly which are for families to share a story together to promote a love of books. Sometimes this will be stories children can read to their siblings or sometimes they might need a parent to help them share the story. We hope that this will encourage all children to be involved and develop a love of reading and discover a range of new fascinating stories.

You may already be aware that we have updated our Behaviour Light system and have worked hard to listen to the pupils, as well as parents, and therefore the Green light will now become a Yellow light followed by our usual Amber and Red. ABCC forms will be completed for pupils who will be moving forward for external support and parent will be made aware of this. We have also listened to parents and understand that some children are very young and therefore will work hard in Early Years to support parents as much as possible before beginning external avenues, allowing time for pupils to mature.

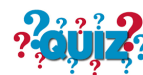


We have planned the clubs for this term which is attached to this newsletter and I would like to thank staff for running these in their own time. Year 6 will be sending home letters to invite pupils to early bird computing sessions daily and also enhancement booster lessons. In addition to this we have peripatetic music lessons which 140 pupils take part in and also regular spelling bees.

Alongside clubs, this year we have decided to link up with Children's University. Mrs King is leading this initiative and you will receive a letter in the very near future on how your children can get involved and sign up. If your child already takes part in Children's University outside of school, they will now be able to log any extra curricular activities they do in school too so please bring their passports into school with them for staff to sign. Keep your eyes peeled for the letter everyone.



This term I would like to invite parents to Family Quiz nights and will send out more information and will include questions for all members of families to take part including younger children. We love spending time with the whole family and hope that many of you will join us for these events.



The Parent Teacher Association have asked me to ask if any parents have time to support or join the committee to strengthen our excellent PTA who work hard to support the local community and families of the school. You can be as involved as you want to be, but any time you can spare would be much appreciated. There are lots of exciting events planned already for this year and we cannot wait to share them with you all.

A big thank you to a wonderful parent for offering to cut the pupils hair for free ready for the start of term and for making a large number of spare PE kit bags - this was so kind of you and much appreciate by the school and children.



We would love you to donate a book for a large display in school ... 'Our favourite books.' This could be books you loved when you were young or books in other languages. Please hand these into the school office and I will add them to the display – if you could write about why you love it that would be even more amazing.



So as we look forward to the term can I remind you all of our one school rule - **to be kind**. Kindness is the most important thing to us in school and if everyone is kind to each other the world would be a much better place. So I have asked the children to really think about their actions and ask themselves, is this kind? Let's spread happiness and joy across the school and instil this in our children hearts for a brighter future. Can I please extend this rule to our whole school community including parents, carers, governors, staff and beyond. We expect and appreciate your kindness and support in following our one school rule to make our environment a respectful, happy and safe space for all of us.



Reminders

Please complete your club choices and return them to school as soon as possible to add your child to the list.

Please send into school a copy of your favourite book with why for our display.

Please consider joining the PTA and helping us with events in school.

Please email me or use the attached reply slip to give me any ideas, suggestions or things you would like help with.

Check out our new Competitions!

Mr Potato Head Challenge 2019-20



Ensuring your child is in school every day is extremely important so that they do not miss out on important learning in their sequence of education.

This year we have brought in a new challenge for the children called the 'Mr Potato Head Challenge!' Across the school every class has been allocated a Mr Potato and the children have spent time deciding on names. These all sit just outside of my office on a huge stand. Each week that a class' attendance is at 97% or above, Mr Potato will acquire a part of his body or an accessory. Each week on a Friday we will take a photo and Dojo it to you all so you can see the classes progress...currently we just have a display of potatoes!

I wonder which class will get all of their body parts first! Who will be the winner? Please help our poor potatoes!!

Attendance

Ensuring your child is in school every day is extremely important so that they do not miss out on important learning in their sequence of education.

As a school we have set a target of 96.5% which is monitored by the Local Authority. If any child's attendance drops below 95%, they will be placed on an attendance plan where the teacher and Attendance Officer who will work closely with you to improve this. Many pupils have a plan already in place due to their attendance figures from the previous academic year.

We understand that sometimes it is not possible for children to attend because of illness and ask that on these occasions, parents call the 'absence line' and leave a recorded message for the team.

Alternatively you can send your class teachers a direct message on Class Dojo who will then record this on the register.

Lateness is also a key priority and we have Mrs Yeoman and Mrs Burnham (Attendance and Welfare Officers) working hard to monitor and improve this. Please be aware that we are well within our rights to issue fines if we see appropriate, for consistent lateness. Please appreciate that if you are late collecting we as a school need to provide additional cover at a cost to yourselves. We understand and will give leniency for odd occasions.



ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS:

Head Girl for 2019/20 is Dawn
Head Boys for 2019/20 are Henry and Samuel



Punctual Achievement:

Look out for upcoming Punctual Attendance winners. Who has been on time and in school all week? Who has captured the awards this time?

Achievements KS1:

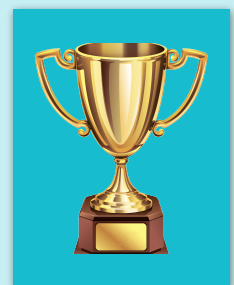
Here you will see all of the children who have received an award in the KS1 Celebration Assemblies held throughout the week.

Achievements KS2:

Here you will see all of the children who have received an award in the KS2 Celebration Assemblies held throughout the week.

Mathletes of the week:

Look out for all of our Mathlete's

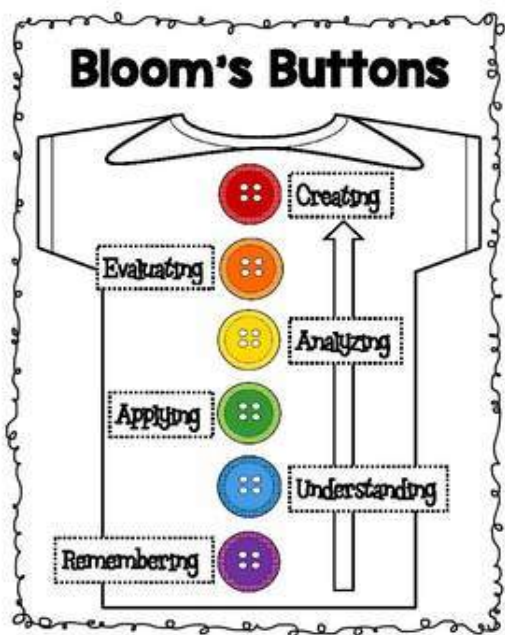


Lateness adds up!

Being 15 minutes late everyday will add up to **TWO WEEKS** of school missed every year!



The Importance of Reading



Reading is not about what we can actually read, it is about the understanding of it and applying what we have read to other things.

Many parents ask me what can they do to help support their child's reading and my answer is always the same – develop a love of reading (Show children books you have loved and tell them why).

Have time at home to switch off the TV and any devices and turn the pages of a fantastic book. Share the same book and talk about what you visualise (see in your head) and talk about words you love, explaining what they mean. Listen to national geographic videos that have the most fantastic language and explain it to your child. Explain your thinking about language, phrases and sentences to your child - that makes me feel; that reminds me of; that is similar too; another example of this is.

When reading school books at home, try asking your child questions about what they have read and give them examples of what you thought referring back to the text.

You could also write your own book or keep a family diary of all of your lives - what a fantastic thing to read later in life. Keep a note book of ideas and things you find interesting about life and the world. Have a positive view of life and take time to enjoy the present and not race through life too fast or you see nothing or end up in the devices bubble of silence.

What can you do as a parent to help your child?

Year R

- ★ Develop a love of books
- ★ Learn the first 100 words reading and spelling
- ★ Promote drawing and colouring to support fine motor skills
- ★ Talk about a wide range of things
- ★ Enjoy the outdoors

Year 1

- ★ Learn the 44 phonics sounds to support reading
- ★ Read and develop a love of books
- ★ Develop good bedtime routines
- ★ Play games and do not always let the child win
- ★ Talk about maths in everyday life

Year 2

- ★ Read for sustained time
- ★ Concentration tasks should be lengthened
- ★ Take turns, listen and promote independence – do not let children interrupt unnecessarily
- ★ Support good conduct and behaviour
- ★ Learn your 2,5,10 times tables
- ★ Play games that involve counting, cards and problem solving
- ★ Allow pupils to develop relationship skills – falling out and making friends is an important developmental stage

Year 3

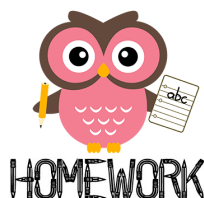
- ★ Learn times tables to 12's
- ★ Read out loud to an adult and talk about books in depth make links to other books and characters
- ★ Develop words and language introduce new words and explain them
- ★ Read silently to themselves for prolonged time with a range of tasks
- ★ Independently complete home learning
- ★ Promote good behaviours and teach children to resolve issues independently

Year 4

- ★ Know all times table multiplication and division – missing numbers
- ★ Enjoy books and be reading longer or more challenging text talking about books in depth
- ★ Read a range of materials and develop general knowledge
- ★ Develop good communication skills
- ★ Be polite and understand the importance of rules, responsibilities and morals

Year 5/6

- ★ Read regularly for a range of purposes – knowledge and fun
- ★ Recap learning and take an interest in learning beyond the school
- ★ Conduct themselves well at all times, listen well to others, talk articulately about a range of topics and debate from different view points
- ★ Add to the quality of lessons because they are well researched and thoughtful



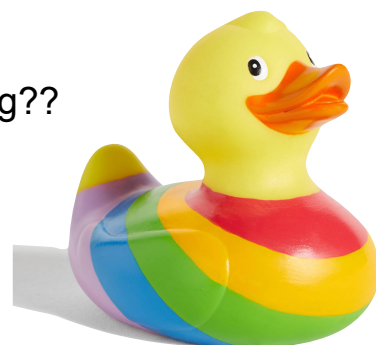
Duck for a Book!

Duck...no don't duck, I mean a duck...quack quack! To add a bit of fun and to start off our Reading promotion this year we are today launching a brand new competition 'Duck for a Book!'

We have a very special set of small Ducks which we will hide somewhere in the school grounds, inside or out, and if you find it, please take it to the main school office to collect your prize - a brand new book of your choice.

We wonder who will spot the first duck :) Where will he be hiding??

Happy spotting and happy reading everyone!





BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

Amelia, Lucas, Shanice, Theo, Bella Mae, Micah, Shahd, Thomas, Alexander, Katie, Liam, Amelia, Bradley, Scarlett, Katie, Jayden, Ella, Harley, Sinead, Alfie, Sophie, Quinton-Rafe, Owen, Luke, Anthony, Sienna, Franc, Paige, Luke, Vanessa, Noah, Evie, Toby, Lewis, Aun, Ethan, Alfie, Robert, Max, Hugo, Elmantas, Kai, Denzel, Adam, Meghna, Jack, Oliver, Elisha, Darcie, Julia, Kaden, Lewis, Tyler and Keniah.

HOUSE POINTS

Below you will see the points gathered each month for our Houses which correlate with our Class Dojo point. Our four Houses and captains are:

The Red Robins -
Dominykas, Isla, Joshua
and Gabriela
The Yellow Canaries - Toby,
Mylee, Natan and Lexi
The Blue Kingfishers -
Hyronemo, Evie, Aston and
Cailin
The Green Parrots -
Eduardo, Julia, Filip and
Aimee



PARENT'S COMMENTS TO THE HEAD

As always we really value your opinions about our school. Please add your comments here for the Headteacher. You can return them in an envelope if you would prefer them to remain confidential.

Please post your feedback into the box in the main office. Thank you for taking the time to provide us with some feedback.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

September 2019

Wednesday 18th - Governing Body
Committee Meeting
Thursday 20th - Life Education Bus visits KS1
Monday 23rd - Stem Team Challenge
Wednesday 25th - Y3 visit Flag Fen

October 2019

Wednesday 2nd - Y5 mobile Planetarium
Thursday 3rd - School Photographs
Monday 7th - YR visits Library
Tuesday 8th - YR visits Library
Tuesday 8th - Book Bus visits YR and Y1
Wednesday 9th - Book Bus visits YR and Y1
Thursday 10th - English Challenge
Tuesday 17th - Full Governing Body Meeting school
Monday 21st to Friday 25th - Half Term
Break

November 2019

Monday 11th - Wednesday 13th - Parents
Evenings by appointment only
Wednesday 13th - Governing Body Finance
Committee Meeting
Friday 15th - Children in Need Day
Wednesday 20th - KS1 Flu Jabs
Friday 22nd - KS2 Flu Jabs

December 2019

Wednesday 4th - Pantomime visits
Friday 6th - Christmas Fete
Tuesday 10th - Y5 Xmas Plays
Wednesday 11th - Full Governing
Body Meeting
Wednesday 11th - Y1 Xmas Plays
Thursday 12th - KS2 Christingle
Thursday 12th - Y2 Xmas Plays
Friday 13th - Y4 Christingle with
Parents invited
Monday 16th - YR Xmas Plays
Monday 16th - Purple Light Treats
Tuesday 17th - KS1 Christingle
Tuesday 17th - Special visitor visits the
Wednesday 18th - Talent Show, Xmas
Dinner and DISCO
Wednesday 18th - Explorers early
close at 4:30pm
Wednesday 18th - End of term

Spring 2020

Monday 6th January - Term opens
Monday 17th - 21st February - Half
term break
Wednesday 1st April - Term ends