



Dear Parents and Carers,

13th September 2019

NURSERY: This week our nursery children started school for the first time. We have had a few tears (from both parents and children) but I am pleased to report that the children have settled in nicely. I would like to thank Mrs Spearman, Mrs Cox, Mrs Peacock and Mrs Beckett for providing such a stimulating, warm and caring setting for the children.

PHONICS WORKSHOP: We had a huge turnout for our Letters and Sounds Workshop on Thursday afternoon. It was a session filled with information about reading, writing and spelling interspersed with practising how to say particular sounds, identifying resources and some fun games to play with your children. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, and following on from this, we will be providing focused sessions each term to help support parents with their child's learning journey in literacy. Mrs M. Ward Assistant Head.

IMPROVING OUR SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT: On Monday 2nd December the staff will be planting a vast number of trees around the school, thanks to The Woodland Trust. If any adults from the community would like to support the school by coming along to plant, we will be starting at 3.30pm. We also ask that you bring along spades and gardening gloves. Please e-mail the school office if you are able to attend. Please note that due to health and safety concerns, children may not be in attendance. Thank you

MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON: On Wednesday 2nd October 2.30pm – 4pm we will be supporting the Macmillan Cancer Charity by hosting a coffee afternoon. This is a cause very close to my heart and it would be wonderful if we could raise a substantial amount of money to help them to carry out their much-needed work. The event will run from 2.30pm to allow you to enjoy coffee, cake and a chat before picking up your child/ren. If you would like to help on the day then please let me know. Please send in cake donations, bought or home-made, to the school office on the morning of the 2nd October. I thank you in advance for your support.

FOUNDATION STAGE NEWS: Another busy week in Foundation Stage this week. We have now welcomed all the Nursery children to Kings Meadow and they are beginning to settle in well. There has been lots of singing lead by Mrs Spearman on the piano, as well as investigating the outside space and lots of dressing up. In Reception we have been practising our cutting skills, name writing, painting portraits and sorting objects into sets. The children have also been given a reading book which we would like you to share with your child, discussing the pictures and reading to them. Any questions, please see a member of the team. We have also been visiting the library and these books will need to be changed weekly on a Friday. We hope you and your children have a fantastic weekend and we look forward to seeing them next week. Ms Rainer FS Co-ordinator

TELEPHONE CALLS: The office has received a number of calls recently from parents asking to be put through to their child's class teacher. I appreciate how upsetting it is to leave a crying child at school but please be reassured that, in the vast majority of cases, the child is happy and settled within minutes of mum or dad leaving. However, if a child becomes distressed and does not calm down then the parents are contacted. During teaching time, the full attention of the staff is on the education of the children and it is not possible for them to come to the phone. Thank you for your understanding.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS AND PUPIL PREMIUM: As you may be aware, in certain circumstances pupils may be eligible to receive free school meals (separate to the Universal Free School Meal scheme) and additional funding known as Pupil Premium. Every parent will have received a registration form when their child started school, however if you feel your circumstances have changed and your child may now be eligible, forms are available from the school office. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you would like more information regarding this.

STUDENT UPDATE & PERMISSION FORMS: Earlier this week all pupils were sent home with their annual Student Update and Permission Form. It is important that you check this document each year and return to the office, even where there have been no changes. The deadline for returning this form is Wednesday 18th September 2019.

ALDI KIT FOR SCHOOLS: Aldi's Kit for Schools promotion is giving 20 primary schools the chance to win £20,000 to kick-start a health legacy for their school. What's more, every school who enters by completing their Aldi's Kit for Schools poster will also receive an exclusive school sports kit! You can collect a sticker with every £30 spent in store and help us to fill up our poster for a chance to win. We would appreciate if you could send in any stickers you collect by Friday 8th November 2019.

WATER BOTTLES: Looking at how we take care of our environment and minimising our impact upon it, is a key priority on this year's School Development Plan (SDP). One of our aims is to reduce the amount of plastic that we throw away. We would like to encourage the children to reuse any plastics that they have. Therefore, we would like the children to bring water (not fruit juice, squash or fizzy pop) in a reusable bottle to drink throughout the day, including lunch time. Please do not send in drinks in single use plastic bottles or cartons. We would appreciate if you could ensure that all water bottles contain only water and contain no fruit pieces. I thank you in advance for your support with this.

SWIMMING GALA: Next Thursday selected children in years 3-6 will be participating in a Swimming Gala at Bicester Leisure Centre. If your child has been chosen to participate, they will have come home this week with a permission form and information regarding this event. Please note that there will be no swimming lessons for Years 4 & 5 for this week only.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS: Our After-School Clubs start next week. This is with the exception of: Dodgeball, Cookery, Tennis and Homework Clubs. These clubs will start the following week due to the PTA Film night next Friday.

IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK:

- Mr Roberts attended the Bicester PE cluster meeting on Thursday morning
- Mr Laurie led Safeguarding training for teachers on Monday and Support Staff today
- The International Week coordinators met on Wednesday
- Y2, Y5 and Y6 held 'Meet the Teacher' sessions

PTA NEWS: On Wednesday the PTA are holding their AGM at 7pm in school. Please come along and find out about the PTA's work and how you could become involved. The PTA are running the first fundraiser of the year next Friday: The Film Night. I hope that the children enjoy watching the films and eating popcorn with their friends. Please remember the deadline for returning your Film Night forms and payments is Wednesday 18th September 2019 by 3.30pm.

SNOWY OWL CLASS ASSEMBLY: Next Friday Mrs Bailey's class will be putting on their class assembly. Please make every effort to attend if your child is in this class. Refreshments will be served at the end.

Have a good weekend



Mrs L Daulton

Headteacher