



Dear Parents and Carers,

17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

**COVID UPDATE:** We have had 9 cases of COVID in school this week amongst children. Some minor changes to the way the school operates have been introduced as a result. These have included the suspension of whole school assemblies. Regrettably this means that Penguin Class assembly, planned for next Friday, will now not take place. I apologise in advance for any inconvenience that this causes.

**DOUGHNUT FUNDRAISER:** I am delighted to report that the doughnut fundraiser raised £345 for the school funds. I hope everyone enjoyed the treat. I would like to thank Mrs Stanway Shaw for organising this occasion for the children and for collecting the doughnuts from Tesco's this morning.

**JEANS FOR GENE DAY:** Thank you for supporting this worthwhile charity today. We have raised £322.94. Well done to the School Council and Miss McGuire for organising the event.

**FSU NEWS:** In Reception this week we have been completing our portrait pictures, by looking carefully in a mirror and adding our facial features, with some excellent results. We have been talking about our homes and who lives with us, including our pets. Our pet survey had some interesting results too. In Reception we have lots of special people and we have been finding out what makes us special. Most of the children have completed the statutory Baseline Assessment in either Communication and Language or Maths and we are really pleased with how hard they have tried.

The mini topic in Ducklings this week has been "My Face". We have been looking carefully in the mirror at our faces and have looked at our features carefully. We have been drawing circles on paper and in the glitter tray and we have been trying to get the sound tube to make a noise by making big circles in the air with it. This was a big challenge. Ms K.Rainer, FSU Phase Leader

**ABSENCE REPORTING:** We would like to remind parents that all absences, where known in advance, should be requested on an 'Absence Request Form'. The form can be located on the school website or alternatively a paper copy can be obtained from the school office. If your child is unable to come to school due to illness please remember to report the absence either by e-mail or by leaving a voicemail on the answerphone. Please include your child's name, class and **details of the symptoms that they are experiencing** as well as when they will return if known. Other than when your child is absent due to Covid and their isolation period has been advised, or when the school are aware of sickness and the 48 hour rule applies, please remember to contact the school on every subsequent day of absence. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

**STARS OF THE WEEK & CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENTS:** Each week in our Friday Celebration assembly a child from each class is nominated by their teacher to receive either a Certificate of Achievement or the Star of the Week. Hopefully your child will come home and celebrate this success with you. The names of the children receiving this award each week are also published on the 'Awards and Accolades' section of the school website. Each week those children who have been nominated as 'Star of the Week' will have their photo taken for the weekly poster. We would like to remind you that these posters are available to purchase from the school office for 50p.

**AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES:** Next week we are due to begin our programme of after school activities. All clubs will finish at 4.20pm with the exception of Cookery Club (4.30pm) and Homework Club (4.15pm). Please see the attached document which details which exit to collect your child/children from. Please remember to check the programme and make a note of the relevant dates for the clubs that apply to your child.

**VEHICLES ON SCHOOL SITE:** We would like to remind you that no parents are permitted to bring their vehicles on to the school site at any time. This includes when dropping off and picking up from Wrap Around Care and after school activities. Please park your cars outside the school gates and walk with your child/children on to the school property. This is to avoid unnecessary traffic on the premises and to comply with Health & Safety

**FREE SCHOOL MEALS AND PUPIL PREMIUM:** Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, more families across the UK are experiencing financial difficulties. If this applies to your family, please do not hesitate to get in touch so that we can support you in the best way we can and signpost you to other support that may be available. In addition to the Universal Free School Meal Scheme that is applicable to all children from Reception up to Year 2, some pupils (Reception – Year 6) may also be eligible for Free School Meals. For these children, the school will receive additional funding to support them. This scheme is open for pupils in families who are in receipt of a number of benefits including: Job Seekers Allowance, Income Support, Child Tax Credit, Universal Credit and a number of other benefits. If you are unsure whether your family may qualify, further information can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meal> . We can use this funding in different ways to help your child to improve their attainment. If you think you meet the criteria and would like to make an application then please complete the attached form and return this to the school office (paper copies available on request). During the application process you will be required to provide your name, date of birth, National Insurance Number and information for each child you are applying for. The school office will be more than happy to advise and help with any enquiries. Please be assured that all applications will be treated with the utmost confidence.

**MR LAURIE- LONDON MARATHON:** Mr Laurie, will once again, be running the London Marathon on Sunday 3rd October. He is part of a team running for Helen and Douglas House Hospice in Oxford. The hospice supported and provided respite care for Mr Laurie's son, Thomas, who suffered from the genetic condition, Cockayne Syndrome. If you would like to make a donation, please use the following link <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/SteveSargant> Mr Laurie is sharing his fundraising efforts with family friend, Steven Sargant, who works for Barclays Bank; Barclays will match all funds raised up to £100



**PHONICS WORKSHOP:** Mrs Ward and Ms Rainer will be hosting a phonics workshop on Thursday 30th September at 1.15pm in the ICT Suite, which is at the front of the school building, and will be signposted on the day. This workshop will allow us to share with you how we teach reading and phonics in school, and ways in which you can work with us to support your child at home. It is for parents of Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children only. If you wish to attend, we ask that you email the school office by Friday 24th September. Those that are unable to attend will find useful resources on the school website. Mrs M. Ward Assistant Head.

Have a lovely weekend

*L Daulton*

Mrs L Daulton  
Headteacher