

Newsletter 3 - Friday 21st September 2018

Dear Families,

This week has flown by! The children are growing in confidence each day and making some lovely friendships. Due to the small class size and indeed, the small school size, it really is like being one big family! Yesterday we had chance to use Scientia's Reading bus at lunchtime as it was too wet to go outside. We had lots of fun sitting on this refurbished bus to share books, colour and chat. Have a look overleaf at some of the photos. We really are getting very used to buses!

Miss Coxon and Mrs Blackshaw have completed the Baseline assessments of the children and will now tailor the curriculum accordingly to ensure each of them reach their potential during this first year with us. Next week, you will receive an email with log in details to access our on line learning journal (Tapestry) for the children. Here you will be able to view all the observations the teaching staff have made since they started with us and see some really lovely photographs of them at work and at play. You will also be able to upload photographs and comments from home to help build a complete picture of what your child is like both at home and at school. This tool will be the basis of Parent Consultation Evening discussions and help to form a picture of your child's progress throughout the year. In addition to this, the children will have a Maths and English exercise book in school where they can record work too.

Next week, the children will start their first 'Talk for Writing' unit, 'Owl Babies' so look out for them reciting the story with some special actions to go along with it. The timing of our trip fits in perfectly with this and will help the children relate to the story even more. The children will also start their Phonic lessons which is where they start to learn all the different sounds letters make individually or together which is the foundations of them learning to read and spell. There will be some information sessions about this later in the term so that you know what and how we're teaching it and how you can help at home. Please see key dates below.

In more curriculum news: we have booked Kimbles music and movement to come in every Friday afternoon to do a session with the children as it was such a hit at our Teddy Bear's Picnic in June. Rose started last week with us and the children have been asking ever since when she's coming back! They had a great time and you can see some of these sessions on the Tapestry app next week.

Clothing for the trip on Tuesday: after discussions with the rest of the staff, we think it is best if the children come in their own warm, comfortable clothing on Tuesday so that they can really enjoy the experience in the woods with the owls and not worry about getting uniform dirty or not being warm enough. Therefore, please send your child in warm, comfortable clothing that you don't mind them getting dirty or messy in. The children can change into their wellies before we go or they can wear trainers. If it's raining, all children will wear wellies.

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Online Payment System: some of you may be familiar with online payment systems. These are cashless systems that parent use to pay for trips and clubs and when the children are older, school dinners. We are just getting this set up so this trip should be the only time you will need to pay cash. Parents generally find it easier to manage the payments on line, rather than having to get to the bank etc. More details to follow in the next few weeks.

Macmillan Coffee Morning: the date for this is next Friday, however, as we are currently at Scientia we are going to postpone this until we have moved into our school building. We thought it would be really nice to have a coffee morning when we had moved in so that you can have a tour around the school and join us for coffee and cake, hopefully raising some money for such a worthy cause. As soon as we have a move in date, we will advertise the coffee morning so any keen bakers (and I know we have some!) be on standby! There will be an official opening ceremony for the school in March 2019. Again, more details to follow regarding this.

Dates: Please see next page. We have added more dates for the academic year as promised last week. There will be other dates added over time but we hope to do this with plenty of notice for trips which have yet to be finalised for the year. There is a slight change to the Harvest Festival as we have since been informed that we will be having a Trust Review on that date, to make sure everything is as it should be and this will take most of the day. Apologies for this change but I hope this has given you enough notice.

Many thanks for your continued support and I hope you have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Hopkins
Head teacher



Having fun on the Reading Bus!

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Enjoying Thursday's Roast dinner!

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Dates for your diary:

Date	Event	Additional information
Tuesday 25 th September	Trip to Rosliston Forestry Centre	Wear own clothes
Monday 22 nd October	Parent Consultation Meetings	2:30-4pm appointments will be scheduled nearer the time
Tuesday 23 rd October	Parents Consultation Meetings	4-6:30pm as above
Wednesday 24 th October	Harvest Festival Celebration	2:30pm
Friday 26 th October	INSET DAY	Children not in school
Monday 29th October - Friday 2nd November - Half Term break		
Tuesday 13 th November	Individual school photographs	Super smart hairstyles!
Thursday 15 th November	Phonics Information sessions	2pm & 5:30pm
Friday 16 th November	Children in Need fun day	Children wear their own clothes for £1 for charity
Wed & Thurs 21 st & 22 nd November	Open days for prospective parents for 2019 Intake.	
Friday 30 th November	Class assembly for parents	2:30pm
Friday 14 th December	Christmas Performance	2pm
Friday 21 st December	'Save the Children' Christmas Jumper Day	Wear a Christmas Jumper for £1 to donate to charity.
Monday 24th December - 8th January Christmas Holidays		
Thursday 7 th February	Class assembly for parents	2:30pm
Wed & Thurs 13 th & 14 th February	Parents Consultation Meetings	Times TBC
Monday 18th February - Friday 21st February - Half Term		
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day	Dress up as a character from a book. Parent assembly.
Friday 15 th March	Red Nose Day	Children wear their own clothes for £1 for charity
Friday 22 nd March	INSET DAY	Children not in school
Week Beginning 25 th March	Mothers' Day Lunch	All mums or grandmas invited into school to have lunch.
Thursday 11 th April	Easter Bonnet parade	Time TBC
Monday 15th April - Friday 26th April - Easter Holidays		
Friday 3 rd May	May Day Celebrations	Time TBC
Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May		
Week beginning 10 th June	Fathers' Day Lunch	All Dads or Grandads invited into school to have lunch.
Friday 28 th June	Class Assembly for parents	2:30pm
Week beginning 1 st July	Annual reports out	
Friday 12 th July	Sports Day	All afternoon
Monday 15 th July & Tuesday 16 th July	Reserve Sports Days in case it rains	All afternoon
Monday 22nd July - Monday 2nd September - Summer holidays		