## Newsletter 5 - Friday 12th October 2018

## Dear Families.

Another wonderful week in our beautiful building! Lots more deliveries of lovely resources for the children - it feels like every day is Christmas at the moment! We had some super balance bikes delivered earlier in the week but we are still waiting on the helmets so the children haven't been allowed to go on them yet and they just can't wait! Safety first! Every day the building is becoming more and more ready for us to take over which is also exciting. Next week, the Early Years outdoor play area should be finished and I know Miss Coxon and Mrs Blackshaw can't wait to get their hands on it to work their magic.

<u>Curriculum & Learning:</u> Yesterday, I had the pleasure of doing some classroom observations to check on how the children have settled in and how the teaching and learning is going. Please see photograph below. I was very impressed indeed! You can hardly tell that this is the second classroom that the children have been in since they started their schooling. They are so settled, working hard and thoroughly enjoying their learning. They were learning the letter 'g' in Phonics and did a great job in writing this down as well as recognising it in lots of words. After the children have learnt the Set 1 sounds, reading books will come home. More information about how we teach Phonics and how you can help at home, will be available at our Phonics workshop on 15<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm and then again at 5:30pm - we hope to see lots of you there. The children have also started learning a new Talk for Writing text, 'The Enormous Turnip', that we hope to present to you at our Harvest Festival on 24<sup>th</sup> October. Again, we hope you can make it.

Tapestry: We hope you've really enjoyed looking at the photographs and comments about what the children have been up to since they started with us. There will be a steady stream of these throughout the year. It's where Miss Coxon and Mrs Blackshaw record their key observations of the children. Please do add whatever you can at home so that we can get a full picture of them. We love seeing what they have been up to at the weekends when they are home with you, so please snap and film away! We learn so much about them that we might not know otherwise. The Tapestry App is a closed group that is only shared with parents of the children in our class. I hope it goes without saying that any photographs that contain other children in the class must absolutely not be shared on any social media sites. If they are, the parent's account will be immediately deactivated. Please let us respect each other's privacy.

<u>Punctuality:</u> Please ensure you are in school before 8:50am. As of Monday, we will start issuing Late Codes on the register to anyone that is not in the school building by then.

Please see photographs overleaf and the staff and I look forward to seeing what super moments you can capture with your child this weekend,

With very best wishes for a great weekend,

Mrs Hopkins

Head teacher

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The children hard at work when I was observing the lesson yesterday.



The staff and I had a wonderful surprise earlier in the week when our Academy Trust Executive Team sent us these lovely cakes as a welcome gift for officially becoming part of REAch2 on opening our school. The card reads: "Welcome to REAch2. We are so happy you are part of our family. With warmest wishes, Sir Steve, Cathie & Katherine." We are very fortunate to be part of such a caring Trust that look after all of their 60 schools so well. They will no doubt be visiting the school in person soon and will definitely be with us for our official opening in March when I think we will need to buy the children some of these delicious cakes too!

Henhurst Ridge Primary Academy / Henhurst Ridge / Burton on Trent / Staffordshire / DE13 9SF