

Newsletter 2 - Friday 13th September 2019

Dear Families,

I can't believe we are at the end of our second week and the children are already in brilliant routines! Lunchtimes are flowing much better and the children are learning to be much more independent by tidying away their trays when they have finished eating. I feel particularly proud of how our Year One children are helping the younger children; from encouraging them to eat more to helping them get changed for the multi-sports club on Wednesday. It is really lovely to see! This week, Year One made Wormeries as part of their topic and Reception Class have started their Physical Development session by using the bikes and trikes which they just love! Our Nursery children have also settled in well and as my office adjoins their role play area, I can hear all the fun they are having in there!

Branston in Bloom: You will remember last year that our school took part in Branston in Bloom and some of the wonderful flower planters the children created can still be seen. I am delighted to let you know that the Branston area was awarded Gold! We very much look forward to being part of the campaign again next year. In the meantime, you may have noticed the fenced off sections of our field. In the Summer holidays, as part of their Community initiative, Argos sent some of their colleagues to fence the area out of left over pallets (continuing our Eco pledge). It took them a week to treat each pallet and create this wonderful area that will be turned into an allotment and fruit orchard. You can see our first tree that was planted at the official opening of the school already there. Mr Parker will be working with the children throughout this year to cultivate this area so that they can grow their own vegetables as part of our 'Seeds to Supper' adventure. More information to follow regarding this.

We have also been awarded the Royal Horticultural Society School Gardening Awards Level Two for the children's gardening efforts last year which is fantastic and we received a free book too for our school library!

Dates for your Diary: Please find a paper copy of the email that you received earlier in the week. We will send reminders of events in the newsletter and via text so hopefully you won't miss anything. There will be a letter coming out next week about the Grandparents' lunch on the 2nd October with all the details on there and how to pre-order lunches and reserve places. We're also only two weeks away from our Macmillan Coffee morning. This will take place in our school hall and we are really reliant on cake donations to make it a great success. I know some of our Year One parents are great bakers and I'm sure there will be lots more with our new parents but if you're like me and feel that donating shop bought ones is far better for those eating them than trying to make them, we're happy to receive those too! Please do bring along family and friends to this very special and important fundraiser and we will also treat you to sneak preview of the children's Talk for Writing texts they are learning at the moment - you're in for a treat! There will be a separate set of dates issued for our Nursery parents as these will be slightly different.

Breakfast Club & Little Stars After School Club: Just a reminder that the entrance to Breakfast Club is now through the Reception outdoor play area and into the classroom directly in front. All monies can be paid to Mrs Morgan who will keep a record of this. If change is needed, Mrs Dennis will process this later on in the day and ensure it is passed on at the earliest opportunity. I hope you received the flyer that was sent home last week about a wonderful new after school club that's about to start led by one of our parents, Kacie's Mum in Year One. Kacie's Mum will collect the children from school and walk them over to The Henhurst Club which is just over the main road. Please call Kirsty on 07487 638083 for more details. I'm sure it's going to be a great success!

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After School Multi-Sports Club: The club was a huge success this week. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and must have been exhausted afterwards after doing all that running around! We still have five places left if anyone would like to join us. This week, we sent the children home in their PE kits but in future, we will endeavour to get them changed before they come home.

PE Kits and clothing labels: Last week, I mentioned in the newsletter about labelling clothes. There are still many items of uniform and PE kits that are not labelled. I cannot stress how difficult it is to return the correct cardigan/jumper/PE top/shorts when most of the children are in the same size. If you haven't already, could you please as matter of urgency, label all items of school uniform, including coats so that we can ensure we return everything to the right owner. As the PE kits are already in school, please feel free to pop in before or after school to label items if you need to. Many thanks for your help with this, it really does make a huge difference. If any children have their ears pierced, can you please remove earrings on PE days if this is possible. If they have not long been pierced and cannot be removed, we will apply micro pore tape over the earrings to ensure they are safe while the children do PE.

Parking: Many thanks for all your help in parking safely and considerately this week. Myself and Mr Parker have been out and about seeing how it's all going and we have been really impressed! A sincere thank you. Some of you will have noticed a Traffic Enforcement Officer on Monday after school. I anticipate that they may make regular checks but shouldn't see any problems on their next visit.

Harrier Award: I am delighted to announce the first two Harrier Award Winners of this academic year. Our value this half term is 'Everyone working together'. Miss Jack and Mrs Carlile have chosen Ethan Russell from Reception Class for showing great teamwork by doing a fantastic job of tidying up! Well done Ethan and thank you for taking such good care of our environment. In Class One, Miss Coxon and Mrs Morgan have chosen Mia Ashaa as she showed great teamwork during her Phonics lesson by working hard with her partner to practise all their letter sounds! Well done Mia - it sounds like you did a great job with this!

With very best wishes for a wonderful weekend,
Mrs Hopkins.