

Newsletter 5 - Thursday 3rd October 2019

Dear Families,

I can't believe we are already in October - September has whizzed by! What a lovely week we have had! This week I have been conducting the termly lesson observations which has been a joy. The children are doing so well. In Nursery, there was a wonderful performance of 'Incy Wincy Spider' followed by the children innovating the main character - they had some great ideas and had lots of fun in the sand area. Reception class are word perfect with the Owl Babies text - we really must show this at our Harvest Festival - you will be amazed! The children had a go at making their own story maps and just look at their wonderful role play area - see photo below! In Year One, the children have finished innovating the Super Worm story where there is a new super hero, villain and trap for the hero to fall into! The stories are very exciting to read!

It is always so great to see the brilliant learning that is going on in each and every classroom! On Monday, our Deputy Director of Education for REAch2, Mr Bhoola will be with us to conduct some learning walks and check how well we are doing. I look forward to letting you know his thoughts next week. He will also be leading an assembly for the children too.

Grandparents' Lunch: We also had our first every Grandparents' Lunch this week which was a great success. It was so lovely to see the wonderful relationships between the grandparents and their children and how much both enjoyed the experience. The sun even shone for us so they could enjoy a little bit of time on the playground. Unfortunately, we didn't get any photographs of this event as it was all hands on deck to make sure everyone had what they needed so we will have to do it all over again next year! Thank you for such a wonderful turn out!

Staffing: You may have noticed a few new faces around school. We have two adults: Miss Hussain and Miss Shakir (who our Year One parents will remember; she has come back to us!) in Reception class who are currently with us on a placement as part of their Childcare course - we are lucky to have them with us. They provide that extra assistance for our teaching staff which we are all very grateful for. We also have an Apprentice Teaching Assistant, Miss Imran, who predominantly works in our Year One class but also does some mornings in our Nursery too. A very warm welcome to them all, they already very much feel like part of the team!

Macmillan Coffee Morning: - We raised a staggering **£270.65!** This is incredible when we have less than 60 children at the school. Thank you so much for your generosity! It will go to an amazing cause!

Parent Governor: Just a reminder that the parent governor application deadline is **Monday 7th October**. We look forward to receiving your application.

Parent Consultation Sessions: Nearly all parents have signed up for their session. If you haven't had chance yet, please pop into the office or call Mrs Dennis to make an appointment. These are great ways to find out how your child has settled into this academic year and ask any questions that you may have.

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School Photos: On Wednesday 9th October, the children will have their individual school photographs taken. A proof will be sent home for you to peruse and purchase if you would like to. I am sure the children will be looking their smartest on that day!

Key Stage 1 Multi Sports Festival: On Friday 11th October, we are hosting the East Staffordshire School Sports Partnership Multi Sports Festival. We are really looking forward to hosting this. Our Year 1 children will be taking part. Let's wish them luck!

INSET DAY - Friday 4th October: Don't forget that tomorrow is our second INSET day of the year so children are not in school. We hope they enjoy a lovely long weekend!

October is Walk to School Month: We are part of the Staffordshire STARS Schools who take part in Walk to School Month each year. As you know, our ethos includes healthy living for children and adults, a better environment and community engagement, all of which are supported by Walk to School Month. We appreciate that some of our children live a distance from school, much too far away to walk, however every effort that we can make will help, for example parking a little further away from school to increase the distance we walk each day. Please check your child's book bag for a leaflet about this. Mr Parker will be out and about taking photographs of our children 'walking to school' during October. Many thanks to you all for your support.

Catering Assistant Required: Due to our increase in numbers, a position has become available in our kitchen for a Catering Assistant. It is for 7.5 hours a week, 11:45am-1:15pm daily, with an hourly rate of £8.21 pro rata. As the school continues to grow, the hours will increase for this post. If you know of anyone that might be interested in this opportunity, please do let them know. Applicants need to complete an application form that's available from our school office or from our website and send to Kelly.chisholm@compass-group.co.uk along with a CV.

Harrier Award: This week Keira Timmins has been chosen from Reception class for being a great classmate as she is always patient, truthful and polite! Wow what lovely things to be said about you Keira. Maimoona Akhtar has been chosen from Year 1 as she is such a great team player and always includes everyone on the playground and shows kindness to all! Again, what fabulous things to be said about you Maimoona! Keep up the great work girls! Have a great weekend! Best wishes, Mrs Hopkins (Head teacher)



A really inviting place to retell the Owl Babies story!