

Message from Mrs Mead

Welcome back everyone, and a special welcome to our new Reception children Teddy, Florence, Isla, Arthur and Theo.

I hope you have all had a lovely break - despite the weather - and it has been lovely catching up with the children today about their summers.

As those of you who were able to attend the meeting about the curriculum last term are aware, we have lots of exciting things planned for this year and classes have already started to think about the learning ahead.

I look forward to catching up with everyone over the next few days and to a fabulous year!

Mrs Mead x



ABSENCE AND ATTENDANCE

Just a quick reminder of what to do if your child is ill or can't attend school.

Please phone or email the office to report an absence. Please leave a message on the answering machine if no one is there to let us know quickly and efficiently who is not here and avoid messages going astray.

If your child needs to be away from school for medical/dental appointments, then please let the office know as soon as you can. We may ask to see proof of these in the form of letters, emails or texts.

Headteachers are no longer able to authorise absence except for 'special circumstances. If you do require me to consider this, then please make a request via email or using a form from the office.

DIARRHOEA AND/OR VOMMITING

After the horrors of last term please can we remind you that if your child is sick or has diarrhoea then they should not attend school for 48 hours after the last bout.

While I would never suggest your child should be in school if they are unwell, it is very important that they are in school as much as possible. Every lesson really does count as research shows that children who fall below 95% attendance achieve significantly less well than their peers.

To encourage children to come to school we are introducing an attendance cup which will be awarded to the class with the highest attendance every week and will earn the class rewards. More details to follow soon.

OUR SCHOOL RULES

Our school Rules continue to be:

★ BE KIND ★ FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS ★ LOOK AFTER RESOURCES

We will all be looking out for those children who follow these to award certificates at Friday assemblies every week.

NEW TIME FOR START OF THE SCHOOL DAY



From September 2022, the DfE required schools to be open for a minimum of 32.5 hours per week or 6.5 hours a day [for KS2 children]. While we were reviewing the curriculum last term, we realised that we were 5 minutes per day short of this?!

As most of the children are here by 8:40am anyway we decided to move the 'official' start of the day to 8:45am instead of 8:50am. All this means is that children may now arrive in the playground at 8:30am and go into class to start their learning at 8:45am.

Finish times will stay the same:

Reception, Y1 and Y2 can be picked up from Squirrels Class at 3:10pm and Y3-Y6 can be picked up from Owls/Badgers from 3:15pm.

SWIMMING

Like last year, school swimming lessons will be done in weekly blocks this year. and all of the children from Y1-Y6 will have the opportunity to go this term.

Pioneers [Y4, Y5 and Y6] will be going next week:

Monday 12th - Friday 16th September.

The children will travel by coach to Launceston Leisure Centre and back, leaving school at 12:30pm and returning at 2:45pm.

Explorers [Y1, Y2, Y3] will be going in the week:

Monday 9th - Friday 13th October

Again, travelling by coach to Launceston Leisure Centre and back, leaving school at 12:30pm and returning at 2:30pm

Children will need a swimming costume or shorts and a towel every day and may wear their PE kit [with joggers/leggings] to school on these days, if it helps them with changing. They may also bring an extra healthy snack to eat on their return to school.

As swimming is a requirement of the curriculum, school will be paying for the swimming lessons. However, in order to keep costs down we will be asking for a voluntary contribution towards the cost of the coach travel which works out at £30 per child for the week. Please see the letter about swimming coming home tomorrow for more details.

I spoke to the children today to encourage everyone to attend these lessons as being able to swim is such a useful skill and will open up lots of opportunities for them throughout their lives. Even if they just come along to the pool and get their feet wet, they will feel part of the experience. Also, if children are self-conscious about being in the pool, I am happy for them to wear rash vests or t-shirts. If you have any worries, please let us know so we can provide support.

NEW REWARD SYSTEM

After consulting with the children and getting feedback from parents we have reviewed our reward system for this year.

We will now be making more use of the house system and have reassigned the children into 3 new houses - named after trees to fit in with our **Trekener Tree of Learning** curriculum theme.

These are:

CHESTNUTS **SYCAMORES** **OAKS**

Instead of Dojos, the children will now receive house points which will be recorded in their morning classrooms. Each week the child in each class with the most points will receive a star of the week badge. Each term the house with the most points that term will receive an extra 'golden time' or 'treat' session. We will keep a running score of all the points over the year and the House with the most points will win the House Cup.

Each class will also have a reward system where they will agree a set number of 'marbles in the jar' for example and when they reach this number, they will also get a treat. These rewards will be for following the rules and working together as a team.

Children will still get raffle tickets for the termly prize draw for 100% in AR quizzes, but they will now get house points instead of Dojos for 80% and above. Also, we will be continuing with Headteacher awards and golden star certificates in assembly each week.

I know this will be a bit confusing to begin with, but I am sure everyone will soon get used to it and will be a motivator for everyone's learning.

NB: We will still be using Dojo for messaging and to celebrate our children's learning and achievements!

OUTDOOR LEARNING or FUN FRIDAYS!

To take advantage of our amazing location and environment as well as the expertise of the staff we will now be spending Friday afternoons outdoors. We will still be following the curriculum but will take our science, geography, art, DT and PSHE to a new level!



To ensure that all the children can go out in all weathers please can you send in a set of clothes and either shoes or boots that they can get dirty and/or wet in, for them to wear on Friday afternoons. They probably won't need many layers this week but as the weather changes can you please send in waterproofs and hats and gloves as required.

Their kits can be kept in school and we will send them home for washing every half term or if they get really dirty or wet.

HEAD'S UP!

M 11/09 Food and Farming Roadshow - Explorers class [inc YR]

Wk beg 18/09 Clubs start this week. Letter to follow.

Th 28/09 Meet the Teacher Afternoon.

F 20/10 Individual Tempest Photos

PE will be on Tuesdays [Arena] and Thursdays [PAFC]

Homework and Topic Grids will come out next week.