



## **WELCOME BACK!**

Welcome back to the start of a new, exciting school year. We do hope that you all had an enjoyable summer break. The children have settled into their new classes really well and are already working hard. It is lovely seeing them all so keen and ready to learn!

**And... A SPECIAL WELCOME** to Kaamil, Leonidas, Tobias, Isabella, Evie, Joshua, Lucas, Rowan, Ezekiel, Esme, Leah, Chloe S, Chloe F, Imogen H, Maisie, Lacey, Hollie, Amy, Isla, Erin, Edward, Paige, Imogen S, Lewis, Ethan, Finley, Ruby, Amelia, Lily-Mae, Isla-Rose.

We would like to welcome all the new Reception children to school along with their parents. We very much look forward to working with you and hope this is the start of a long and happy partnership.

## **ATTENDANCE**

At the start of the year we would like to remind parents of the real importance of good school attendance. As an example, if children are taken away for a two week holiday every year and have an average number of days off for sickness and appointments, then by the time they leave at the end of their secondary years they will have missed an entire year of their schooling.

In school we monitor general absences but also broken weeks which can have the most detrimental effect - for example, taking a 'long weekend' breaks two weeks of schooling so on one hand a child may not complete a unit of work over a week, or they will miss the beginning of the next week's work which can be hard to catch up.

We would be really grateful if you could support us with encouraging good attendance habits in your children which will stand them in good stead throughout their school life.

## **JOIN US FOR LUNCH**

We would like all parents to join us for lunch this term. This is a chance to sample the delights of Helen's cooking and see what is available for the children to eat. We have linked these to class assembly days.

More information will come to each class shortly before their date.

## **Time4reading**

We would like to thank parents who have participated in the reading initiative to read 75% of the top 100 books list that was distributed before the summer break. We have reached 52% so far. We have a display in the corridor which shows which books have still to be read. Please take a look and help us reach our goal.

'Well done' to all the children who have reached the first destination on their reading Passport Around the World'.

## **HELPING PARENTS**

All teachers would be very grateful for any offers of help in class, whether on a regular or one off basis. Please contact them directly. We will continue asking parents coming into school to leave mobile phones in the office, for two reasons:- firstly we have a child in school with a pacemaker and phones can cause interference; secondly as a part of our safeguarding routines.

### OPEN SESSIONS FOR RECEPTION CLASS 2018

We are pleased to give you the dates for our Open Sessions where prospective parents can visit the school. This involves a short presentation from Mrs Small and the School Council, followed by tours of the school given by our Year 6 children.

If you have a child who reaches school age in September 2017 please feel free to join us, or, let friends and family know. If these times are inconvenient please contact the office and arrange an appointment.

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 9:30

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00pm

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 1:30 pm

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November at 1:30pm

For the evening date, there will be a short presentation and tour of the school.

### INSET DAYS

We have now set our INSET days for the year when school will be closed to children as staff have training.

They are: Monday 31st October, Tuesday 3rd January 2017, Friday 21st July 2017

### CLASS ASSEMBLIES

You are very warmly invited to join us for our Class Assemblies where the children have the opportunity to share with you some of their learning. Refreshments are provided by FOWS beforehand. Babies and toddlers are very welcome but we do ask that if they become noisy you take them out of the hall (as it makes it difficult to hear!)

All the Assemblies will start at 9:15am.

Year 1 - 29<sup>th</sup> September

Year 2 – 20<sup>th</sup> October

Year 3 – 24<sup>th</sup> November

Year 4 – 17<sup>th</sup> November

Year 5 – 1<sup>st</sup> December

Year 6 – 10<sup>th</sup> November

Please note all dates are available on the school website: [www.wellesleyschool.co.uk](http://www.wellesleyschool.co.uk)

Also, you can use our Schools App which is a great way of being reminded about dates. If you have not downloaded this and would like to do so please contact the office for details.

### Diary Dates

30th September—MacMillan Coffee Morning at 10 am

12th October—School Photographer

13th October—Harvest Service at 9:15 am

21st October—Halloween Disco

21st October—last day of term

31st October—INSET day—school closed for pupils.

1st November—First day back for pupils

### **MEDICINE IN SCHOOL**

Please remember that no child should have medicine in school without informing staff, for example paracetamol sachets or cough sweets. We ask that all medicines are given directly to class teachers who will store them safely in the classroom.

If your child needs a short term course of medicine, such as an antibiotic, a permission slip must be filled in before staff can give it to your child (available from the office). Please note that staff cannot be responsible for remembering to give the child any medicine that they need to take home (we try, but at the busy end of a day can forget!)

If your child needs an inhaler (especially as the weather starts to get colder) please remember to send one in. (It is surprising how often we have a wheezing child with no inhaler in school.) These will be sent home termly so that you can check that they do not need replacing.

### **OUTDOOR 'KIT'**

As the weather starts to get wetter children will not be allowed on the field at break times unless they have a change of footwear – this cannot be the trainers or daps that they use for PE.

Ideally a pair of wellies or an old pair of trainers should be stored in the boxes outside each classroom. When it gets even wetter waterproof trousers should also be worn (this stops children getting very muddy trousers!)

### **CYCLE HELMETS**

We would like to strongly recommend that all children cycling to school wear a cycle helmet. This has been proven to be life-saving in many accidents. Any child undertaking cycle training in school **MUST** have a helmet as a requirement from the South Gloucestershire Cycle Team.

### **Head Teacher's Awards**

Y1 – Ellie and Taya for beautiful writing. Well done – the first Head Teacher's Awards of the year.

### **HARVEST – 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016**

Our special Harvest Service will be led by children in Years 3 and 4 at 9:15 am. Parents are very welcome to join us.

More details to follow in our next newsletter.

Please note our Reception children will not join us in the hall for this service as they will not have experienced an assembly and it can be a little bit daunting.