

Parents' Newsletter

Love, Respect, Honesty, Perseverance



Friday 6th September

Dear Parents

Welcome to a new school year – the children have come back refreshed and excited to begin a new year.

We, as a Trust, have spent an industrious summer completing our application to be assessed for a Global Neighbours award in each of our schools. This is a really exciting development and the work towards this has supported the growth of our Living Well Together curriculum. With the events of this summer, we, as a staff, felt this was more important than ever.

Once again, we have all started the year looking back at our core purpose and developing our Learning for Life Behaviours in all our pupils, supporting them in having an understanding of all six of them.

Our Living Well Together Curriculum has been revised and is further supported by a refresh of our Diversity Project. We have new schools on board with this and are excited to continue to build on our work with schools in the UK to include schools in Kenya.

We are so looking forward to taking our Year 6 pupils to PGL in Lincolnshire next week and will be really exploring the Learning for Life Behaviour 'Try New Things'!! Parents can expect daily updates with great photographs; please do keep in mind, however, our primary focus is taking care of the children and not uploading too much content.

Kind Regards

Bridgette Gough

Head Teacher

Collective Worship/ Reflection Themes

This week the children have been thinking about family and feeling a sense of belonging. My worship was adapted from a "No Outsiders Assembly," and highlighted the report about Teasel the dog and the kittens she cared for. Please ask the children to explain the article and why, especially at this time of year, this story is an inspiration.

Our Reflection Area is linked to the idea of making the most of every new September and seeing it as an opportunity to be the best you can be. The children have been asked to reflect about their hopes for a new year of a love of life and learning.

Next week, we will focus upon our Learning for Life Behaviour 'Respect Yourself and Others' with a particular focus on friendship and the power of words.



Welcome to the Family!!

This week it has been so heart-warming to see our Y6 pupils supporting the Early Years settling into school, showing them the ropes of how lunchtime works. They have been amazing buddies and our youngest pupils are certainly very taken with them. We have included some photos capturing some of the fun that has been had. We know you will miss them next week when they are having their PGL adventure, but they will be back very soon.



Safeguarding

All staff have undergone the updated safeguarding training in school for 24/25. In line with this, the school's Child Protection Policy (this document can be found on the school's website) has been updated to reflect changes in the new Keeping Children Safe in Education. Our Trust is committed to building a culture of safeguarding.

Sports Centre Parking

As we begin a new year, I am taking the opportunity to remind parents that we offer entrance to the site via the Ramsey Gate (next to the Sports Centre). This entrance is staff monitored from 8.35-8.45am and at the end of the day, the children escorted back across and the exit manned. This eases parking around the school site and is a safe and convenient option for those walking or driving. Due to the way this works, it is completely safe. This is a great way to encourage a little more independence, especially for the children entering Year 5 and 6, preparing them for secondary school.

Dates for your diary

We are sending our dates for the diary for the coming year along with this Newsletter. You will see that our Professional Development Days have been carefully scheduled to support non-term time holidays – and that the final two days of the year are scheduled for this purpose.

Pupil of the week

Tiger Cub Class: W1-Tiger Cubs

Reindeer Class: W1-Juliette

Fennec Fox Class: W1-Connor

Panda Class: W1-Gracie-Mai

Snow Leopards Class: W1-Archie

Turtle Class: W1-Sofia

Seal Class: W1-Teddy



Birthdays in September

Niya	Delilah
Daice	Bella S
Harrison	James
Wilfred	Evie P
Jacob C	Georgia
Eva H	
Leon	
Henry B	
Isla T	
Archie C	
Sadie	
Joseph C	
George K	



Going For Green

Sports Cup

Tiger Cub Class

Hearing Children Read in School - Reading Volunteers

We would love to increase our reading volunteer base this year. Even if you can offer just a small amount of time this is invaluable for the children. We understand for some this may not be every week and may have to be flexible. However, if you think you could give a little time to this, we know you will enjoy it and feel a sense of making a difference! If you are interested, please do get in touch with the school office. Please be aware that as part of the volunteer process, you will be asked to undertake a DBS check.

Maths Homework- Reminder

As many of you will know, maths homework for all of our pupils' centres around Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFs). These have been carefully selected for each year group to support pupils with the curriculum. Taking time to calculate these facts without instant recall can help pupils applying a new method. Knowing that $2 + 7 = 9$ or $6 \times 8 = 48$ instantly is a big support when the children begin to add and multiply larger numbers in KS2.

There is a set list of facts for each half term for each year group. You will be given the first of these along with some top tips in the class newsletter via Dojo next Friday. We also have a series of films of suggested activities suitable for the home environment that can be found on our website here.

<https://www.st-andrews-halstead.co.uk/mathematics/>

<https://www.feeringprimary.com/kirfs-how-to-films/>

It is important that these are practised little and often so even 1 minute a day can make a difference. Being verbal, there is no need for the children to write anything or even sit down – they can even be practised on the move!

Other useful websites with games to support these can be accessed via the links below.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zjkphbk/articles/zd4b382> (EY)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zs3j2v4/articles/zf3r96f> (EY)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zjkphbk/articles/zf4sscw> (Year 1 and 2)

<https://ttrockstars.com/> (Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 – individual logins will be in your child's reading record shortly)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zn2y7nb> (Year 3, 4, 5 and 6)

Pupils' ability to recall these facts is checked at the end of each term, but if you feel that your child has speedy recall before this time, please let their teacher know and some next steps will be suggested.

Parent Consultation Group

Our Parent Consultation Group support the school in delivering the best service we can to our pupils and their families. The PCG is a representative group used to gather information and feedback. We explore current practice and ideas for the future of the school offer. As lots of new parents have joined the school, we thought this was a great opportunity to encourage parents to get involved. Alongside the newsletter, we are sending further information about the group and an application form should you be interested.

Class Name and Teachers

Just a little reminder of our new class names for 24/25.

EY – Tiger Cub Class – Mrs Bolton

Y1 – Reindeer Class – Mrs Collister

Y2 – Fennec Fox Class – Mrs Horton

Y3 – Panda Class – Miss Etherden

Y4 – Snow Leopard Class – Mrs Payne

Y5 – Turtle Class – Miss Douthwaite

Y6 – Seal Class- Miss Williams