

Having had a very disjointed start to the term, we have finally settled down and managed to have a couple of complete weeks at school.

I feel I can now welcome back those returning and of course, a big welcome to all our new parents and children.

The weeks interrupted by holidays have not helped the very new and young children but I am happy to report that most children have settled and the tears have reduced considerably. Well done those parents who have braved the pain of leaving distressed children. Please rest assured that they are all fine shortly after you leave.

APPOINTMENTS FOR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

Having just had parent interviews for Nursery, Reception and Year 1 classes, we have had one or two parents ask why Pre-School classes haven't had them. On the whole teachers of these classes tend to have daily contact with parents and mainly the children's progress at this stage is one of settling in. Please rest assured that you would be contacted instantly if there were any problems. However if you would like to have a more in depth discussion please don't hesitate to make an appointment through the office. The best time to speak to the teachers is after 12.15pm.

TEDDY TENNIS

The staff from Teddy Tennis gave a demonstration of a lesson and I was impressed with the activities they gave in order to develop the skills necessary to become a tennis player. We shall organise for them to give lessons next term. Further information will be sent in January.

AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES

Afternoon activities for Year 1 have started. We are offering Art and Craft, Jewellery Making, Dance and Movement, Observational Drawing and football. All activities are fully subscribed apart from football, which has one place. Please enquire from the office if you are interested.

NEW BUILDING

As you may have noticed by the absence of the gates on the end villa, we are no longer renting it and we have taken on the villa nearest the entrance. This is far more satisfactory as it means the children do not have to go through the car park to get to it. We are currently preparing the villa for occupation in January. A path will go through the grassed area in front of my office, straight into the garden of villa 16. The villa where my office is situated is villa 14 and the one where Year 1 and Reception are located is villa 12. Villa 16 will provide accommodation for the new Pre-School class and possibly a new nursery class.

DATES TO REMEMBER

1st & 2nd November Holiday

13th & 20th November Parent Information Sessions - see below

5th to 13th December Concerts and parties

PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

13th November 8.30 - 9.30am

- 1. Preparation for reading
- 2. How you can help
- 3. Hearing your child read
- 4. Spelling

20th November 8.30 - 9.30am

- 1. An outline of the school day in Pre-School & Nursery
- 2. The activities and resources we use
- 3. Developing the child's language
- 4. Open discussion on parenting issues

PARENTS' HANDBOOK

These are usually distributed when your child first starts school. If you do not have one, they are available from the office.

CLASS NEWSLETTERS

The first of this year's class newsletters are currently being prepared and should be distributed later on in the term. These are posted on our website and you can download from there. If you are unable to do this, a copy with just the text will be available from the office. We shall inform you when they are posted.

EARLY MORNING SUPERVISION

May I remind you that staff are on duty in the playground from 8am. This is to help those parents who have to drop off at other schools or get to work. It is also to try and alleviate the parking problem. If you wish to avail yourself of this service, please leave as soon as there is a teacher on duty, so that you vacate your parking slot for somebody else. If you do not want to leave, please keep your child with you and stay away from the gates into the supervised areas to give access for those who wish to drop and leave.

GATES - KEEP OUR CHLDREN SAFE

Please ensure you always close the main gate behind you or physically hand it over to the next person. Do not leave it open for the next person as they may not go through for some time and a child could run out into the car park. Drivers and housemaids should be made aware of this.

Mrs Sandra Whitford

October 2017