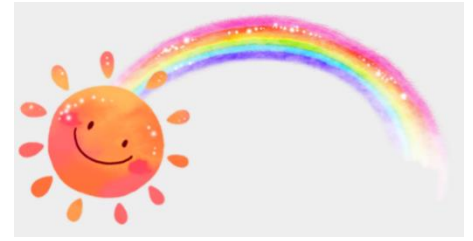




Newsletter

September 2020



It seems a little late to be saying welcome back – but as it's a couple of weeks in we have all had time to reflect and I want to say thank you for supporting us in making the transition into full time school so positive.

What a gloomy/rainy day! During my school walk this morning though the mood was far from gloomy and I thought I'd share my 'snapshot':

In Nursery the children were using their hands to rehearse their numbers – I spotted some budding mathematicians! They were just about to start sharing the story 'One mole digging a hole'...

In Reception the children were reinforcing their letter sounds. Ask them about the 'ants on their arm' – there were certainly no 'ants in their pants' as the children had fabulous focus – well done!

In KS1 I saw some tricky maths work; with talk about 'partitioning' and some great independence.

The children were preparing to write based on the story 'Greta and the Giants' – there was some impressive 'forest spelling' being shared.

And in the Reading area children were working with focus on literal and inference questions.

Y3 were reinforcing their place value knowledge – I saw some confident workers, and others who were really benefitting from the additional focus on this work.

In Y4 there was a focus on vocabulary; in one class this was linked to their maths work and in the other to their 'deepening knowledge' work around a 'famous' mountain...

Y5 were beginning some work in Music about the 'sound of trees' – intriguing and disappointing that I couldn't linger longer! The other class were preparing for their athletics work – indoors today, but they were still working hard.

In Y6 EVERY PUPIL was working with focus and pace on their 'Flashback 4' maths calculations and then their SPaG work on subject/object.

What a lucky person I am to be able to share the learning journeys of so many young people...

...And I encountered Mr Graham several times as he went about his morning spot cleaning rituals...

- There still seem to be some issues around driving around the site – please take account of the children and their safety. We need to think about ALL the children and not just our own and personal convenience (I know that the majority of parents echo these views – Thank you). On a positive note we appreciate those parents/carers who are being punctual and leaving the site promptly – this is helping make the staggered starts/finishes work well.
- Thank you for the contributions of tissues and handwash – we are well stocked now! – many thanks. The children do not need to bring hand sanitiser into

school - I know some do in lunchboxes and understand why you may do this however the children have handwashing integrated into their school day, including before and after lunch. Also, I know that some children have prescribed creams to apply due to skin conditions and the irritants around handwashing – we of course support this; however, some cosmetic handcreams are appearing in school and creating a bit of a 'trend' – we ask that you support us in keeping these lotions at home – at the moment we are keeping things nice and simple around items being brought into school and yesterday there was a whiff of Boots pharmacy around the place! Thank you.

- Mrs Barber has asked me to let you know that the walking to school scheme will be re-introduced in October. A quick reminder that if children wish to scoot or ride to school they simply need to dismount at the gate and park their 'vehicle' in the cycle pods around school.
- In the face of the pandemic, flow charts, directives and rumours (!) we ask that you continue to let us know anything we need to know about an illness, family link, test & results etc. We really appreciate your transparency and will respond in kind.
- As I said in yesterday's message; teams will be contacting you around Homework and the use of Class Dojo – please let us know promptly if this is going to be a problem for you so that we can find a solution.
- This week we say 'Goodbye' to Mrs Copley; who has been a valued colleague for many years. She is spreading her wings over into social care and we wish her every success as she moves forward. She will be missed by staff and pupils in equal measure. Good Luck!
- We would like to continue to develop the philanthropic strand in our curriculum and although this is an alternative way to achieve it would like to hold a MacMillan Coffee Morning. We propose that next Friday – 2nd October, children bring in a tasty treat and £1. During the course of the morning year groups will have their 'tea party' (the children will eat the treat they have brought in from home) – we will provide juice. We hope that you will support us in this. Thank you.

Dates to remember (we have provided details of these previously):

- 28th September - After school Club begins
- 2nd October – MacMillan Tea Party
- 13th October – school photos
- 12th November - Flu immunisations
- 4th & 7th December - PDDays

Please take care and stay safe.

Mrs Wood

