

## THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL

I would like to give a personal thank you for the warm 'welcome back' that I have received from all of the parents and carers that I have met on the main gate this week. It has been wonderful to welcome Years 1 to 6 back into school and we are delighted with how quickly everyone has settled into their new year groups. Our thanks go to all of our parents, carers and children for supporting us in managing social distancing on site at the beginning and end of the day. I have received a number of emails over the past two days praising the school on its organisation of the staggered timings - my thanks to all those who have been in touch, it has been lovely to be able share your feedback with the staff team.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome all of the new Nursery and Reception families who will be joining us over the next two weeks. We also have two new members of staff joining our team this term: Miss Mullen who joins us as our new Year 4 Teacher, and Miss Wright, who will also be working in Nursery as an Early Years Practitioner.

For those of you who are new to school, this weekly newsletter is our main form of communication with parents. The first page of the newsletter details events which have taken place in school during the current week and those which are planned for the following week. The second page is a 'noticeboard', which gives you advance notice of events which are taking place during the coming term, along with key messages from different members of staff.

In addition to this week's school newsletter, you will also receive a copy of your teacher's class newsletter for parents; these newsletters detail the main themes which the children will be covering in school between now and October half term, along with details such as PE days and homework information.

## NEXT WEEK

Our Reception children will be joining us for their half day visits next week and the staff are very much looking forward to welcoming them into school.

Next week, each of the classes will be continuing with their focus on our children's health and wellbeing on their return to school. Each class teacher has selected a short, high quality text, through which they have been exploring themes such as community and belonging. The 'normal timetable' will then resume on Monday September 14th.

## SCHOOL LUNCHES

Mr O'Brien and his team have been superb in ensuring that we can still provide lunches for all of the children. Next week, options for lunch will be:

Monday - Pepperoni/Cheese and Tomato Pizza, or a Jacket Potato

Tuesday - Chicken/Vegetable Curry, or a Jacket Potato

Wednesday - Fish and Chips, Cheese and Tomato Pasta Bake, or a Jacket Potato

Thursday - Sausage Roll, Cheese Pasty, or a Jacket Potato

Friday - Mexican Chicken, Quorn Enchildas, or a Jacket Potato

## VALUES FOR LIFE

As you will already be aware, unfortunately, we cannot bring all of the school together in the hall for Collective Worship at the moment, so we have been developing our skills in delivering 'virtual worship'! On Thursday, I shared Collective Worship with the whole school on the theme of 'hopes and dreams', with each child then having the chance to think about and share their own hopes and dreams for this school year.

As a school, we have a set of core Christian Values which inform all areas of our work. Our first value of the year is going to be 'community' and we are looking forward to Canon Sandra Benham's virtual worship next Wednesday, when she will be talking to both children and staff about this important concept.

## STAFF DEVELOPMENT

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff for their hard work and dedication in preparing school for our children's return. Training this week for staff has, as I am sure you can imagine, centred predominantly around safeguarding and health and safety.

# NOTICEBOARD

## Dates for the 2020-2021 academic year

Historically, dates for the year ahead would normally be shared with parents and carers at the beginning of September. Unfortunately, the current national situation means that planning ahead is incredibly challenging, as the guidance at the moment is highly restrictive in terms of us being able to bring parents and carers into school. We will obviously communicate all important dates to you as soon as we possibly can.

## School Dinners

If your child has recently started in Year 3, we would like to remind you that they no longer receive Universal Free School Meals and, unless you are eligible for Free School Meals, you will need to pay for your child's meals using the online 'School Money' system. If you need any support at all with this, then please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

## School Uniform

Please could we remind you to label all of your child's belongings, including footwear and coats.

## Supporting our Community

Please could I ask you to support us in developing links with our neighbours by taking care not to block their drives in a morning and an evening.

## Year 2 Theme Day

Year 2 are planning an exciting theme day on Monday September 21st, when they will be coming to school dressed as dragons! Please see the Year 2 class newsletter, which has been circulated today, for more information.

## Peripatetic Music Lessons

Peripatetic music lessons, both for groups and individuals, will all be starting week commencing Monday September 14th. Next week, Mrs Armstrong will be meeting with each of the visiting teachers to arrange the children into their year group bubbles. Lessons will take place in the Music Room, which is considerably larger than the Practice Room, and children will be 3 metres away from the visiting teacher.

Lessons will be taking place on the following days:

Monday - Strings  
Tuesday - Guitar, Keyboard, Piano  
Wednesday - Keyboard, Piano  
Thursday - Woodwind  
Friday - Percussion

Should you have any queries about instrument lessons, then please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Armstrong through the school office.