



Newsletter No.9

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, may we wish you all a very Happy New Year. From talking on the gate we know that many of you were unwell over Christmas. More than ever we wish you all a happy and healthy year ahead! We truly hope this is the year where we can take big steps forward with coronavirus.

It has definitely been a positive start to the term. On day one it was wonderful to walk round the school and see the children settled to their learning and genuinely happy to be back. This positive attitude to learning and doing our best continues, we are so proud of the children's hard work. We know this doesn't happen by accident: a combination of good support and attitudes to school from home, combined with interesting and engaging topics and teachers, mean the children are all striving to do their best. Their attitude to learning is inspirational. Thank you for your support with this. A gentle reminder that the gates open at 8.45 in the morning and close at 8.55. We have noticed a few late arrivals which does impact on learning time. The teachers and TAs have well planned learning opportunities even in those first 10 minutes of the day so prompt arrival is appreciated. We just can't wait to get started every day!

As you will have seen, our covid risk assessment remains in place, thank you for continuing to support us with this. There have been a number of significant changes from the government at a national level since we returned to school. Do make sure you read any correspondence carefully so you know what is happening or what you need to do. If you are unsure, please do just ask and we will help you understand the latest updates as much as we can.

As a staff we had a very positive start to the new year with a training day focused on our curriculum. Time was spent thinking about what we do well and what we can do better. In the words of Dylan Wiliam on teachers; *'not because they aren't good enough but because they can be even better'*. Just as we encourage the children to do so, we are always trying to develop and improve our knowledge and skills for the better of everyone. Even better if it is a great sentence starter! It was a great way to start the year and we all feel energised to keep moving the school forward and 'soaring to success'. Lots of positive discussions were had and actions taken.

As you still aren't able to come in to school we thought it would be good to share some of our beautiful displays of the children's work with you. We are sure you will agree they are fabulous!

Alongside our newsletter today there is a request for help. The Reception team are working very hard to develop their outdoor area for the children and are making lots of exciting purchases to help the children explore, play and learn. The letter details a few items that you may be able to help us with. Do get in touch if you can, many thanks in advance.

As we look forward, the Spring term is always an exciting one. We start to reflect on how our Reception children have settled in to school life so well, one third of their first year at school already done! It was wonderful to welcome them to their first celebration assembly today. We then look to our oldest children who only have two thirds of their final year to go. They have lots to look forward to and we are excited to be supporting them in making their final memories in primary school as well as building confidence for the Secondary transition.

Thanks as always for your support and collaboration. 2022 here we come!

**Best wishes,
Mrs Kendall and Mrs Pentney**

