



Celebrating Diversity,
Learning Together

Colston's Primary School

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Headteacher: Alex Bell

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Dear parents and carers

Welcome back to a brand new school year at Colston's. I hope you and your children enjoyed the summer holidays and that you are all feeling refreshed and ready to go. As you know, yesterday was a staff training day and we all spent the day at school working on strategies to further improve reading at Colston's. Staff also spent time preparing classrooms for what promises to be a fun and exciting year ahead.

New Staff

We welcome Mr Howard and Ms Bayat to the teaching staff and we welcome back Ms Davies who is returning after maternity leave and Ms Dinwoodie who will be covering Mrs Marsh's maternity leave. We also welcome back Esther Wilcox who is returning to her role of LSA after her maternity leave.

In the office, we welcome Hazel Owen as part time Assistant Accountant. We also welcome Chris Gale from Superstars who is taking over from Sarah Hall.

School Improvements

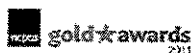
Over the summer many minor repair and maintenance jobs have taken place. Our main focus has been to refurbish the old art room as it is now Mrs Arbrey's classroom.

For further information regarding your child's curriculum and class activities, please click the Year Group Information button under the My School tab on the school website.

Pupil Motivation Update

At Colston's, we firmly believe that the way to encourage and promote positive pupil conduct is through praise and recognition of pupils who set good examples themselves and supporting those who find this more challenging. As with any school development, the aim is to create a calm, fun, safe and purposeful place for children to learn.

During last year, staff spent time working on ways to further improve our strategies to encourage positive pupil behaviours and attitudes. Many classes tried out ClassDojo, a free online system where any staff member can give points to pupils who are being kind, responsible and/or trying their best. We found that this system worked extremely well and complimented our class rewards



system (Golden Tickets) perfectly. We have therefore decided to introduce ClassDojo school wide from this term. Class teachers will initially introduce the system to their classes and once it becomes fully established, it is our aim to create a ClassDojo home school link so parents and carers can support their child's achievements at home.

As with ClassDojo, many teachers were using breacktimes as an opportunity for the small number of pupils who struggle with the rules to reflect on their actions. This is generally only used for repeated low level disruption and we know that this will not be suitable for every child and alternative approaches will be used in these cases. From this term, we will use Reflection Time on a school wide basis for pupils from Year 3 to Year 6. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have developed their own system which feeds naturally into what happens from Year 3 onwards.

Pupils attending Reflection Time will go to one of the Year 6 classrooms for the first 15 minutes of lunchtime where they will be supervised and encouraged to reflect on their conduct and work out a suitable resolution. Obviously, we hope that this will be a rare and one off experience for children but should a child attend 3 Reflection Time sessions in one new term (approx. 6 weeks) parents/ carers will be asked to come in to seek a way forward.

Obviously, more serious breaches of the school rules will continue to be dealt with accordance with our Rewards and Sanctions framework (which is on the school website).

As ever, should you have any questions regarding these developments, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or myself.

I wish you a happy and prosperous year ahead.

Yours sincerely

Mr Alex Bell



Head Teacher

