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## 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020 – End of Week 2 - Autumn Newsletter #4

Dear Parents,

Week 2 of the autumn term has gone well. The sun has been shining and there are lots of happy little faces in school with the children still clearly enjoying being back with their friends and enjoying the new curriculum. Reception children have enjoyed their part-time start to primary school, settling in particularly well in their newly designed snazzy classrooms. From Monday we will have 60 Reception children in at any one time so look out for a bit more people traffic at drop off and collection.

You should by now have received the start of year information from your class teachers. This is also added to the school website under '[Curriculum Information](#)' along with the *Collectables*. As mentioned last week, these new *Collectables* are the outcomes that children will be working towards achieving in that subject or topic. They will be very useful to you so you know what is being taught in school and how you can support at home. We are encouraging the children to think of them as they would a sticker book. The aim is for them to collect them all over the year. Each one is unique and creatively designed to make them interesting and engaging. Teachers and teaching assistants have worked together to create these in a joint project. They have really worked hard to make them special for your children, and to align them with their ideas for inspiring them in the classroom. Please do have a look at them and print them. If you don't have a hard copy, just email the teacher and they'll be happy to send one home. If you have any feedback on them I'd love to hear it.

Our whole school remote assemblies this week have looked at how we understand ourselves; what are we good at, what do we need to improve with and most importantly, how do we get better at something. Staff have been learning how to do the Rubik's cube to help us understand better what it's like to be a learner again and today Mrs Pike showed us her Rubik's skills in assembly. She also shared how she'd learnt to do it in just over 2 minutes! If there are any young challengers out there who want to try to beat Mrs Pike, you're welcome to have a go. I believe we have one child in Year 1 who could give her a run for her money.

Our curriculum subject blogs are back up and running. Check out the [Science Blog](#) to see more about Year 1s' bug hunt in the orchard. The [History Blog](#) has some vile Year 6 Victorians getting into trouble.

Have a look under *Well-being in Action* to see some good news stories as we continue the *LET'S SMILE* feature. [Smiles in September](#) shows you some of the work that's been going on to support your children's emotional well-being on their return to school.

Over the summer holidays one of our pupils known as *The Project Master* because of his interest in research and learning, created a project about the history of St Margaret's. I can highly recommend it. If

KINDNESS RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY ASPIRATION

you would like to see Dylan's project, you can find it in the school foyer. Just remember to please sanitise before and after looking through it.

Many thanks to the PTA again for their support with school improvements. You've all seen the outdoor classroom outside Year 3 but you probably haven't seen our wonderful orchard. Mr Thomas who maintains our orchard in a voluntary capacity would like to say thanks to the PTA for coming up "trumps by recycling a couple of large water butts to help us triple our water conservation."

Thanks to everybody out there for engaging with us on attendance during this time of colds and runny noses. We are managing to maintain over 95% attendance each day which is good news in these uncertain days. Mrs Newman has put together an attendance flow chart to help you with any further tricky decisions. It contains the latest government guidance on what constitutes COVID-19 symptoms which I've also listed below for your information. I've added the [attendance flow chart](#) to our website under the coronavirus page under 'A range of Helpful Resources for Parents'.

Attendance heroes this week:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Pine and Oak Class with 100%!!!

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Holly Class with 99.7%

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Apple Class with 99.3%

This means that Pine and Oak have earned an attendance star. Once classes collect 3 of these, they get a special non-uniform day in school.

Clarification on the main symptoms of COVID-19:

- **A high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **A new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you have noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Please continue to bear with us at drop off and collection. The building works outside Year 1 are due to be largely finished by Wednesday next week. After which we will be able to better assess how drop off and collection might work in the longer term as we will have greater access.

At drop off and collection please can parents not enter the classrooms. We are trying to minimise any opportunity for transmission. If you need to chat to the class teacher you can either pass a message via Mrs Pike or I on the gate or email through on the class email. Thank you for your understanding.

Please consider carefully about parking and traffic congestion as it can be very busy at certain times with a lot of children and families crossing the road. Remember to also please be mindful of our neighbours, ensuring they can access their drives and get out to work. Thank you

Very best wishes,



Tim Hughes (Headteacher)



## Stars of the week...



Beech	Michael D - for being such a super engineer. You think carefully about what you are going to create and can explain exactly how you made it. You don't stop there...you share your fabulous ideas with your friends!
Pine	Roman- for his enthusiasm in class and for always listening to instructions.
Oak	River- for showing great aspiration in her learning and sharing her thoughts with others. Thank you for helping around the class too River! Well done.
Apple	Veronica - for being responsible for her learning and always giving that little bit extra to ensure she completes work to the best of her ability - well done
Birch	Theo - For your fantastic listening and behaviour this week and for also trying new foods at lunchtimes this week. Keep it up!
Rowan	Emilia - for your tremendous effort in all you do. Your smile and laughter fills everyone's buckets and makes us all smile too!
Cherry	Isla for her fabulous monster creations in Literacy this week and her great work investigating forces using jenga blocks. You show all of our core values and have made a great start to Year 4.
Maple	Joe - for superb participation and exemplary effort! You show real curiosity and love of learning and this makes you a fantastic role model. Very impressive Joe!
Holly	Ethan for being reflective on his learning and able to justify his thoughts.
Willow	Charlie for an exceptional piece of writing
Hazel	Bea Moore, Bea always sets a fantastic example to others in class and has excellent learning behaviours. She has joined in and worked hard all week.
Hawthorn	Ellen- for her fantastic enthusiasm and effort for all she does! She works brilliantly with others, and is always keen to contribute her fantastic ideas in lessons. Keep up the superb work!

