



Head Teacher's Remarks

Reminders

Safeguarding Lead

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MK Dons

Welcome back to the start of a new academic year; and an especially warm welcome to those children who are new to our school. Our youngest children have settled in really well and are enjoying their new experiences. It has been lovely this past week getting to know everyone during Good to be Us Week. It was also a pleasure to welcome so many parents to the Meet the Teacher meetings. I trust you found them informative and helpful; all the staff look forward to working with you over the year. We all hope that you will enjoy planning some of the wider learning opportunities which were discussed, and that your children will enjoy them. These came from a Department of Education directive which we have then personalised for our children.

The children have been enjoying a wide variety of learning activities during Good to be Us, which are important for their personal development, and help to settle the children before the more formal curriculum begins next Monday. I hope your children will have shared with you something of what they have been learning. Y2 Welly and Scooter Wash was very busy, and they were proud of the money they earned. This morning they are off on a walk round the village. Thank you to those adults who were able to assist with supervision. Y3 had a great visit to Hazard Alley yesterday, and were excited to share all they had discovered. Well done to those children in Y6 who chose to take the Secondary School Transfer Test this week and I know tried their best. Y4 are off to Woodrow on Monday – I know they are all very excited. We have arranged for Y4 Meet the Teacher next Thursday to include a presentation by the children about their visit, so please note the start time of 2:00pm.

This is the first newsletter of the year, and so inevitably includes lots of reminders. Please do take time to read through this edition, and each subsequent one, so that you are aware of what is happening throughout this coming year. We use the fortnightly newsletter to keep you fully informed about what is happening in school so please do keep an eye on it to avoid missing out on news throughout the year. Subsequent newsletters this year will also include information about wider issues, so that we can together support the children to be emotionally as well as academically resilient. As well as dates being on the website, we send out a Parent Calendar. Could I suggest that you print this off for the fridge/door so that you can see upcoming events and also the term dates. I would like to draw your attention to the fact that summer term in Buckinghamshire does not end until Tuesday 21st July. I am unable to authorise leave for holidays, so do note this when considering your plans for next summer. Thank you. We do publish our newsletter on the school website each week, but we would request that all parents download the free e-schools app so that all messages 'ping' directly to you for your convenience.

The stationery shop has been quite busy at the start of term. It would be very helpful if you are able to give your child the correct money for the item/s they need to purchase. We are pleased to offer this service to you and your children so that it is more economical for you and gives the children responsibility for purchasing the equipment they need. Thank you for your support of the shop.

As last year we would like to request that – once your child has their pen licence and so a pencil case – your child brings a small pair of in-ear-phones to school for their use in the IT suite. For personal health and hygiene reasons this is preferable, though we will continue to ensure that there are headphones available for the youngest children in the school. I imagine that, like me, you have several pairs of small ear-phones in a drawer, as they seem to be provided free with almost every electronic device! Please do not feel – despite what your child may tell you – that they have to have top of the range ones! These will be residing in your child's pencil case/drawer and be used as required. Thank you for your help in this matter.

When you drop off in the morning the staff are on duty from 8:25am. Once your child is on the playground we request that parents do not wait in the staff car-park to watch their child. This can be very unsettling, especially for the younger children. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Last year there was an increase in the number of children arriving after the gates had closed. In such a case then please bring your child to the front entrance of the school. They will wait in the entrance area until all children are in from the playground and then will be sent to class. This is to ensure the safety of all children in our school. Please do make every effort to drop your child prior to 8:35am so that they can come into class with their peers and feel part of the 'team', rather than arriving late.

Please could I remind all parents that your children, and any younger siblings, should be with you on the playground at the end of the school day and not 'wandering'. Scooters and bikes should be pushed on the playground for the safety of all. So that after school clubs can get going quickly and safely, please remember that families should have left the playground by 3:25pm. Thank you for your help and cooperation in this matter, and for arriving on time to collect your children if they are not walking home independently.

I would like to remind parents of children in KS1 that your child is provided with a daily snack of fruit or vegetables. Unless there is a medical reason why they require additional food mid-morning the children probably do not require an additional snack for break time. We have found a number of children do not eat their lunch as they have filled up on two morning snacks!

For everyone, may I remind you all of our snack policy – from Monday to Thursday the children should be bringing fresh or dried fruit or vegetables only. On Friday they may bring a different snack (as long as it is not a large piece of cake!). Our aggregated figures from the last three years from the National Child Measurement Programme show that our percentage of youngest children who are 'not ideal weight' according to the Government recommendation are just below national percentages and in line with those of the whole County. For children in Y6 the percentages show that Cheddington children are well below both National and County averages. As you will know we are encouraging the children to eat healthily and to exercise; and, combined with what you as parents are doing, together we are helping the children to build positive habits for their future.

The annual data checking sheet will be sent home next week. Please check all the information carefully and return the form promptly to the office. Should changes occur during the year, please ensure that you notify us. Hopefully your child will not have an emergency, but we do need current contact information just in case. This year please sign the back of the form as well, as we now need a signature to show you are aware of the Data Protection information outlined to you.

Could I again ask any parent who needs to park nearer to the school than the park and walk at the recreation ground or village hall, to do so with careful consideration for our neighbours. Residents on Lammas Road in particular are increasingly inconvenienced by inconsiderate parking, and this makes the area around the school more dangerous for all the children. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Finally may I say that we are all looking forward to a great year with your children. Should you have any concerns or queries, your first point of contact is the class teacher and we will make every effort to respond within one to two working days. I am sure we will all have a positive time and that this year will fly by!

Mrs K. Tamlyn
Head Teacher

<u>Reminders</u>	<u>Safeguarding Lead on duty</u>
Monday, 16th - Year 4 Woodrow High House	Monday - Mrs Tamlyn
Tuesday, 17th, 4pm - Year 6 Parents and Children, River Dart Meeting	Tuesday - Mrs Tamlyn
Wednesday, 18th, 8.45-9.15am - Reception Parents, Share the Learning	Wednesday - Mrs Tamlyn
3pm - Year 4 return from Woodrow High House	Thursday - Mrs Tamlyn
Thursday, 19th, 2pm - Year 4, Woodrow feedback and Meet the Teacher	Friday - Mrs Tamlyn

Absence

Just a reminder that if your child is not attending school because of illness or any other reason, please telephone the School Office by 9am on the first day of absence. Please do not e-mail as the School Office may not have had time to read these first thing in the morning. On the day your child returns to school they must provide a short note explaining the absence which is a requirement of the Department for Education.

Thank you

MK Dons

Please see below sessions and programmes provided by MK Dons. For more information please visit their website.

MK Dons SET Skills Centre (Mondays & Tuesdays): Perfect environment to develop and improve individual football skills such as passing, dribbling, turning, shooting etc. These sessions run in school age groups (Foundation & Year 1, Year 2&3 and Year 4-6) this will also include a goalkeeper specific session on the Tuesday too! Taster sessions are available for £5 but must be booked over the phone.

MK Dons SET Player Development Centre (Thursdays & Fridays): This is the highest community football level programme in our player pathway. Players must play for a local grassroots team on the weekend. These sessions run in school age groups (From Year 2 to Year 9) across Thursday and Friday. This course will help players become comfortable in different phases of the game and offer a unique opportunity to represent MK Dons in fixtures! These sessions also offer Goalkeeper specific sessions and taster sessions for £5 but must be booked over the phone.

MK Dons SET Futsal: Brand new programme providing an introduction to the worlds fastest growing sport. A faster paced version of football which is extremely fun and challenging! This programme will run 2 sessions each Wednesday including Year 4 to Year 6. Can be used as an alternative to football or as a tool to develop skills that can be used later on in football too! For this session we offer FREE Taster sessions!