

1st July 2021

Dear Parents,

Last week was Sports Week and the children really enjoyed the range of activities we were able to offer. The in-class competitive Sports Day events went very well with some very close finishes in the various events. The results were as follows:

	Beacon	Orchard	Tower	Windmill	<i>Winning House</i>
KS1	90	108	115	108	Tower
KS2	178	156	167	170	Beacon
Overall totals	268	264	282	278	Tower

Congratulations to Tower as the overall winners; and as you can see the Houses were all within 18 points – a very close competition. My personal congratulations to all the children for their fantastic sportsmanship and teamwork as they supported each other. Well done everyone.

This week the children have been completing their end of year assessment tasks in English and Maths, and constructing their last DT projects for the year. The classes have been hives of activity with the children very engaged.

Next Tuesday, the first in July, is traditionally the day when the children meet their teacher for the new academic year in September. We have looked carefully at the arrangements for this day to try to keep everyone as safe as we can. There have still been no changes to the Guidance for Schools from the Department for Education. Therefore, this year, the children will be spending the entire day in their new classroom with their new staff, but keeping to their current year group drop off and pick up times. (Y6 will be enjoying a very special challenge day based elsewhere in the school.) I am delighted that our two new members of staff will be able to join us for the day in order to meet the children before September. I am sure that the children will have a positive day and will no doubt tell you all about it!

As we are approaching the end of the school year, please could the children bring all school library books back into school by Monday 5th July. Thank you.

It is with sadness that I share with you that Mrs Curry, our SENDCo, will be retiring at the end of the term. We wish her every joy in her life of leisure. I am pleased to have appointed Miss Bateman as our SENDCo moving forward. Her background is in working with children who face particular difficulties in learning; and she is looking forward to meeting with parents of all children on the SEN register in September and getting to know you. We are also sad to be saying goodbye to Mrs Damon, who is going to be based at her home in Wales, and to Mrs McLeman, who is moving to a new role at another school. We wish them both well in their new roles.

Once again, I feel I must raise the issue of the number of cars and the parking on Lammas Road. Most children who live in the village should be walking to school; and for those who genuinely do need to travel to school by car, please could I remind you to use the park and walk facilities at the village hall or the recreation ground. Sadly, there is an increasing number of cars around the school, not all of which are parked with consideration

for our neighbours. Furthermore, the congestion is a cause for concern for those children who are walking. Thank you for your help in this on-going matter.

May I also thank you all for your continuing support of the measures we have in place at the start and end of the day. I am still required to ensure that 'parents maintain social distance' and that the children are not mixing outside of their class bubble or family group/child-minding group whilst on school premises. The children should therefore remain with you at all times, not be playing or running around with others. I am saddened that staff have recently overheard the use of inappropriate language from some adults whilst waiting for children to be dismissed. Please may I ask you to be aware that children do have very good hearing, and on school site we request that everyone considers the feelings of others.

You may have seen in the press over recent days discussions as to what is planned for schools for the start of the new academic year. As yet the only official communication we have had is that nothing will change prior to the end of the school year in terms of our required operation. There may be an official announcement made in line with the planned date of 19th July. As soon as I have received information from the Department for Education, and considered with the Governing Board any implications of changes, I will let you know. Hopefully that will be prior to the end of the summer term – but given previous changes it could be over the summer holiday period! Fingers crossed that the information will be sent to us in a timely manner so that I can let you know in plenty of time.

Tomorrow afternoon your child will be bringing home their annual written report. We trust that you will find this an informative summary of your child's achievements over this challenging year. Please do take a moment to not only celebrate with your child, but also to read the letter which accompanies the report. Thank you.

Mrs K. Tamlyn
Head Teacher

I have been asked by NHS to share the following information with you:

Thinking of returning to your role as a healthcare professional? We can help you!

This message goes out to all parents, carers and members of the local community who may once have been a healthcare professional such as a nurse or midwife and now considering a return. Returning healthcare professionals have a key role to play in ensuring patients and service users have access to experienced and well-trained care staff equipped with the right skills. Health Education England (NHS) provide funding to support the pathways to return and are keen to support or answer any questions you may have if you are considering returning to perhaps nursing, midwifery or if you trained as an allied health professional (AHP) or a healthcare scientist (HCS) but have since left the profession.

Please do contact us for more information on: 01865 932097 or email returntopractice.se@hee.nhs.uk