

9th September 2011

Dear Parents,

Here we are at the beginning of another academic year. I hope you had a good summer holiday. It seems harsh that our summer appears to have only been in April which now feels so long ago, and it seems that Autumn has definitely arrived. Personally I'm still hoping for an Indian summer!!! Hope springs eternal.

It is delightful to see all our children back safe and sound and we have had a record number of new children transferring from other schools who, hopefully, we are making feel very welcome. We also wish to extend a warm welcome to our "newbies" in Foundation who are starting out on their school careers. We hope all will be very happy and succeed at all they can. On the staff front we are extremely pleased to have Mrs Townsend in Year 3 and Mrs Templar in Year 1 joining our team.

The children look so smart in their pristine uniforms, please may I remind you to ensure their clothes are named, particularly those things they take on and off like jumpers and PE kits. Hopefully they remember all the bits about no jewellery, fascinators etc.

You will have already received the first House Challenge and there are many other events in the pipeline. We have not asked the children in Foundation to take on this Recipe House Challenge because we felt that it was probably a bit early when the deadline is next Friday 16th September. They will of course be included in all future challenges.

Our first event this year will be the Harvest Celebration on Thursday 6th October, which we very much hope you will all be able to attend. More details later. This will be followed by our Open Morning on Tuesday 18th October. Although this is aimed officially at parents of children who are going to be starting school in September 2012, please note that all are welcome. So although you already have your child here you are still very much welcome to come and take the opportunity to visit all the classes whilst the children are at "work". This may be of particular interest to anybody who has missed this opportunity in the past. If you know of anybody, friends or neighbours who may be interested please do spread the invite on. There will be posters and more information nearer the time.

You may have noticed that at last we have had our markings painted onto the new playground surface. The children are already enjoying using those for games. For the new parents can I just clarify that we ask our children not to go on the play equipment in the mornings. We appreciate that some of their tiny brothers and sisters can't resist going on there and that's fine, as long as it is at your own risk because we are not able to supervise them or take responsibility. When the first whistle blows we would be grateful if you could join the children in silence for the moment until the second whistle sends the children to line up, say goodbye etc.

The 50/50 Club is continuing this year. It costs £2 per month (£24 for the year) for which you are allocated a permanent number, and then in assembly we draw a lucky number every month which wins half the pot. Last year one parent won it twice!! The other half of the pot

goes to School Fund to support extra things for the children. If you are interested please pop into the office and they will be very pleased to sign you up.

Finally I have to mention that dreaded word "Parking". We have gone straight into autumnal weather and I appreciate that this means lots of cars milling around School Drive and Brookfield Road both at the beginning and end of the day. Please, please, please park safely. Staying off pavements, yellow zig-zags, neighbours driveways etc. is for your children's safety. The police are keen to monitor and can set fines if we cannot maintain good order ourselves.

We are handing out this as the first newsletter of the year, but please ensure we have your current email addresses as all future newsletters will be posted on the website and a notification sent.

Yours sincerely,

Krys Kuzminska