



17th October 2019

Dear Parents

The time has flown by and we have completed our first half term already! Our reception children have settled into school and all of our classes have embarked on some really exciting learning projects.

Less paper!

In an attempt to be more environmentally friendly and cost effective, we are aiming to reduce the amount of paper letters we send home. In order to reduce the number of newsletters we were producing, the teachers and myself are using the website to keep you informed about the learning that is taking place and we are endeavouring to add key dates to our events diary so that you can plan and know what/when things are happening in school. At the moment we occasionally do still need to send some letters home, as people get more familiar with looking at the website. These will be significant letters about trips or sometimes reminders of key events in school. There are always ongoing issues with letters reaching parents and being located deep within school bags, so to support this we will make sure that we put a copy of the letters on the notice board outside Class 2. You can then check this regularly to ensure you haven't missed anything. Ultimately, we aim to be paper free and our new parent portal will support us with being able to gain permissions for trips etc... In the meantime, keep regularly checking your child's bag, the school website and the notice board.

Fundraising

This term we have already been raising money and have supported Macmillan Cancer research with our coffee morning totalling £87.46. We are also really fortunate to have a fantastic group of parents (FOPS) who gather together to plan really exciting fundraising events and activities for our children. The funds that they raise support the whole school and allows us to provide opportunities for all our children that we sometimes struggle financially to do as a school. We have ring-fenced some of the money raised to enhance our library area as we want our children to love reading and the funds you have raised can help provide a lovely environment for this. So next half term we can make this happen, thanks to you and the wonderful team of FOPS. Watch out for notices from them about up and coming fundraising opportunities including Friday's cake sale (for the Cornwall Air Ambulance) and fun Halloween activities on Thursday 31st October after school.

We mentioned the 'C' word!!!

Please forgive us about the fact that we mentioned the word **Christmas** this week and may have created a bit of excitement! I am afraid it was unavoidable; as part of our fundraising this term the FOPS worked with the school to organise for the children to create their own Christmas card designs that can be published for you to buy. You will get more information about this and there will be a chance for you to see your child's design and purchase the packs of cards after half term.

Photographs

Don't forget, the first day back, Tuesday 29th October, we have school individual/siblings photographs.

Attendance

We have had a wobbly start to the term with some illnesses having an impact on our whole school attendance. It currently sits at 95.9%. Our Trust target is 96% and we adhere to our attendance policy where our aim is to ensure that our children gain the greatest benefit from their education by attending school regularly. It is my duty to keep you informed about school attendance and the personal attendance of your child/children. I have been working closely with the Local Authority Education Welfare Officer to monitor the attendance patterns within the school. We have focused on pupil's attendance that is significantly low and discussed ways we can support this. Our policy is to work closely with parents and we appreciate the way our parents keep us so well informed. It is part of our safeguarding procedures to ensure that we know the reasons for any child's absence. We follow the law, abiding by legislation such as 'There is no automatic entitlement in law to time off in school time to go on holiday' and the Trust's policy is that we follow up absences with letters and where necessary the local authority penalty notices. Our Trust policy is on our website for your reference.

Parent support

We always comment about how lucky we are to have the support of our parents and the opportunities we have to work closely with you to ensure that your child makes progress and is happy at school.

Thank you for a wonderful start to the school year, we hope you have a lovely half term break and look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 29th October 2019.

Miss Kelly Edwards
Head of School