



SEPTEMBER Newsletter

11th September 2020

Dear parents/carers,

Welcome back! It is so lovely to be able to write this; the joy that every member of staff felt when all the children walked through the gates after such a prolonged time away was immense. I wanted to also give a special welcome to all our new children and families. Even though the school may look a little different the children have settled back really well. They have quickly picked up the new routines that will enable everyone to feel safer in these uncertain times. Here's what we have been up to this week:

The children have been very busy developing their Class Charters by thinking about the Rights enjoyed by the children under the United Nations Convention for the Rights of the Child; by following the class charters, children and adults ensure that everyone has their right to education, to be safe and to feel valued. Everyone has been focussing on physical and mental wellbeing; most classes have started running the daily mile and everyone is engaging in many different physical activities every day; from dancing to fitness, from yoga to meditation. We have been focussing on understanding our feelings and worries and finding strategies to deal when they become overwhelming.

FSU News

The new children are settling in so well and they have made a great start to the new year. Nursery have really enjoyed their first week at school, getting to know our friends, our classroom and our routines. We have been doing lots of learning and exploring outside. We children have been filling and emptying our jugs with water and hiding and counting all the mini beasts inside. We have been exploring our sensory area talking about what makes us happy and we've been strengthening our hand muscles with lots of mark making! It's been an exciting week in Reception, too! The children have been making new friends and learning together. Whilst playing in the mud kitchen Jayda said 'Are you starving?! Don't worry – soup is almost ready!' On his first morning back Adam T said 'I'm happy to be in school! I have so many friends. 1,2,3,4...I can't even count!'

Sharing Good Learning

As part of our new safety measures, we are unable to gather in the hall as a school for assemblies. However we are continuing to conduct whole school assemblies in our classes and sharing good learning. I will upload the assemblies on the website so you can all see the amazing work the children are doing!

- **Year 1:** have been looking at the book 'The Colour Monster' and then made their own monsters to show how they were feeling that day. Their new topic is 'All About Me'. They read 'Me, Myself & I' and wrote about what they like about themselves.
- **Year 2:** Year 2 have been learning about the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, they learned that they have rights and also responsibilities, they drew fantastic pictures to represent those.
- **Year 3:** have been working on their Class Charter and then created a target that they would like to work towards during the year.
- **Year 4:** Year 4 have been thinking about their identity and what make them individuals. They wrote these down in their dream books. They then used wax resist art to decorate their pictures before adding in all the information about themselves. The result was beautiful artwork!
- **Year 5:** have been learning about their brains, how they learn and what it means to have a growth mind-set. They then participated in Austin's butterfly challenge and drew amazing butterflies!



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- **Year 6:** Year 6 created beautiful abstract noun poems. I loved how they used familiar things to evoke the feeling of bravery!
- **Special mentions:** **Lydia** would like to special mention all of the children in Year 1 for adapting so quickly and maturely to all the new changes they have had to face. They have had an excellent first week back! **Alice** would like to mention the whole of year 3 for settling in so quickly. **Furkan** would like to mention **Sameen** for being a great learning partner.

I wanted to say a **big thank you** to all the parents and carers for your patience and understanding whilst we get used to and implement all the new safety measures. Particularly at drop off and pick up times. I know some of you are waiting for a while to pick up different siblings. After a week of monitoring we are now changing some of the timings to enable less waiting time between classes. The new timings are as follow:

| Year Group | Start time | Finish time | Location |
|------------|------------|-------------|-----------|
| Y5 and Y6 | 8:45 | 3:15 | Main gate |
| Y3 and Y4 | 8:55 | 3:20 | Main gate |
| Y1 and Y2 | 9:05 | 3:30 | Main gate |
| N | 9:00 | 3:20 | Back gate |
| Reception | 9:00 | 3:25 | Back gate |

We have been made aware that some parents are not receiving their emails. Could I please remind you all to check your junk folders as the emails may have been redirected there. We usually send emails with letters as attachments and often these are redirected on the junk folders. If you are still having trouble accessing your emails, do let us know.

As part of our **safety measures**, only **small** book bags are allowed in school, please do not send children with large rucksacks.

Finally, I wanted to thank all of the parents and carers for following our safety measures during drop off and pick up times. We appreciate that it takes a little bit longer to collect your children, but by lining up in a physically distant manner along the walls, you enable other members of the public to walk through and you are keeping yourselves, your children and school staff safe. Furthermore, it allows the teachers an opportunity to greet you and get to know you.

Dates for the rest of this Year

| | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| 26 th October to 30 th October 2020 | Half Term | School Closed |
| 21 st December to 1 st January 2021 | End of Term | School Closed |
| 15 th February to 19 th February 2021 | Half Term | School Closed |
| 1 st April to 16 th April 2021 | End of Term | School Closed |
| 19 th April 2021 | Inset Day | School Closed |
| 3 rd May 2021 | Bank Holiday | School Closed |
| 6 th May 2021 | GLA Elections | School Closed |
| 31 st May to 4 th June 2021 | Half term | School Closed |
| 23 rd July 2021 | Inset Day | School Closed |

Best wishes,

Barbara Lo Giudice, acting head teacher