



Friday 14th September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a brand new school year. Hopefully you all enjoyed the summer break with your families and had opportunities to relax and enjoy some special times together. We've all come back to school with energy and enthusiasm and you will read below that there is already a great deal of activity across the school.

EYFS

We are delighted with the wonderful start the children have made! They have all settled in very quickly and confidently, choosing activities independently and many making new friendships. They have quickly learned the many new routines such as lunch, PE, French, worship, learning activities, playing on the playground and using the snack bar. Their first week has been focused on exploring the classroom and activities as well as learning to be independent and understanding how to help themselves to resources (as well as the not so exciting activity of tidying up!). We have been very pleased with their independence in getting changed for PE, putting on their coats and changing their shoes – thank you for training them so well! Now all the children are in, next week we will be introducing some more adult-led tasks and finding out how well they can maintain concentration.



KS1

Year one and two children have settled very well into their new classes and enjoyed learning about their class countries. They were proud to share their work at open afternoon last Friday and it was lovely to see so many of you there. Their new topic of 'birds' is now underway. Year one children have enjoyed making birds nests and learning about the parts of birds for their science focus. In maths they have been counting, reading and writing numbers to 10 in figures and words. In English they have focused on how to recognise and form capital letters accurately and learned how to use them in names. Next week they will be learning how they are used at the beginning of a sentence. Also next week, in maths they will be linking numbers and words together, in science they will be identifying and naming common birds and for RE they will be learning about God. Year two have been adapting to their more challenging routines and are doing well with being independent and focused learners. They have been learning alphabetical order in English and are making their own dictionaries. Stravinsky's Firebird has formed the basis of their music appreciation and the children have been sketching pictures in response to the music. Next week they will be changing and improving upon them to create stimulating pieces of artwork. English will be learning to write a recount in preparation for their visit to Birdworld and in maths they will be comparing and ordering numbers.



LKS2

We have had a very busy start to the new school year in LKS2. After immersing themselves in learning about their class countries from the Americas in the first week of term, it was fantastic to welcome so many parents into the classrooms last Friday to share their children's work. They have now started on the topic for the rest of the term – The Ancient Egyptians. In maths, both year groups have been focussing on place value in numbers, as well as practising times tables. Practising times tables with your children will help them memorise them more quickly and prepare them for the multiplication test which year 4 will be taking in the summer. In English, year 3 have been reading the 'Hodgeheg' by Dick King-Smith and writing descriptions of settings from the book. Year 4 have been learning about how to add suspense to writing and really enjoyed watching a clip from 'Monsters Inc' before applying their learning to write suspenseful paragraphs. In science, Year 3 have started their year-long science investigation by collecting rainfall which they will measure monthly. Year 4 have started measuring the temperature daily at lunchtime as well as learning about the classification of animals into vertebrates and invertebrates. We are all looking forward to our workshops on Ancient Egypt next week.



Learning about place value in Canada Class

UKS2

The children have settled in really well into their new classes and are excited about the year ahead. In year 5, Norway class produced art based on Edward Munch's The Scream, played chess and looked at Norwegian geographical features, in Russia the children learnt all about the space race, used compressed air to propel mice (not real ones!) into the air and investigated air resistance and gravity. In Y6 Portugal class used Google Earth and atlases to locate Portugal and countries colonised or discovered by Portugal, learnt some Portuguese and produced expressionist art based on Carlos Botelho's Old Bunch of Houses, in Ireland the children created their own Ireland fact posters, made Ireland quizzes and did some Celtic art. This week children across the phase have started their work on Arabian Nights, looking at the tales of Sinbad the sailor and planning and writing their own versions. We have also looked into the ancient city of Baghdad, the importance and historical contribution of the Islamic civilisation and have begun some art work influenced by Islamic art.

ABSENCES - PENALTY NOTICES

The Education Welfare Service, acting on behalf of Surrey County Council may issue a Penalty Notice as an alternative to the prosecution of a parent/carer for their child's unauthorised absence from school and requires the recipient to pay a fixed amount. The amount payable on issue of a Penalty Notice is £60 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice, rising to £120 if paid after 21 days but within 28 days. If the Penalty Notice is not paid within 28 days, the Local Authority must prosecute the parent/carer for failing to ensure regular school attendance under Section 444 Education Act 1996.

Circumstances when a Penalty Notices may be issued

- Pupils identified by police and education welfare officers engaged on Truancy Patrols and who have incurred unauthorised absences.
- The Education (Pupil Registration)(England)(Amendment) Regulations 2013, state that Head teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. The Head teacher is required to determine the number of school days a child can be away from school if leave is granted.

Where a child is taken out of school for 10 sessions or more and the 'leave of absence' is without the authority of the head teacher, each parent is liable to receive a penalty notice for each child

who is absent. In these circumstances, a warning will not be given where it can be shown that parents had previously been warned that such absences would not be authorised and that they will be liable to receive a Penalty Notice if the leave of absence is taken.

- The issue of a Penalty Notice will also be considered where a pupil has incurred 7 or more unauthorised sessions during the preceding 6 school weeks. The parents' failure to engage with supportive measures proposed by the school or Education Welfare will be a factor when considering the issue of a Penalty Notice. Unauthorised absence will include late arrival after the close of registration without good reason.

With the exception of unauthorised leave of absence taken in term time, parents will be sent a formal warning of their liability to receive such a notice before it is issued.

Penalty Notice relating to Exclusions

Section 103 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 places a duty on parents to ensure that their child is not in a public place without justifiable cause during school hours when they are excluded from school. This duty applies to the first five days of each exclusion. Failure to do so will render the parent liable to a Penalty Notice. The amount payable is £60 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the Penalty Notice, rising to £120 if paid after 21 days but within 28 days. If the Penalty Notice is not paid, the recipient will be prosecuted for the offence under Section 103. Alternative education provision will be made from the sixth day of any exclusion and failure to attend such provision without good reason will be treated as unauthorised absence. Please see attached our Attendance Policy which has now been updated for 2018/19

SCHOOL OFFICE REQUESTS – OFFICE OPENING HOURS 8.30AM-4.00PM

The school office is always a busy place and we are happy to help you at all times, however we would be grateful if parents could help us in the following ways:

- Report absences as soon as possible using the absence line which is checked throughout the day or via email.
- Reply slips should be sent either with your child to hand to the class teacher or put into the post box on the front door which is emptied twice a day.
- Use the online payment system for lunches and trips. If you do pay by cash or cheque this should be in a sealed envelope with your child's name, class and trip/activity on the front.
- Changes to going home arrangements should be reported to the office by 12pm which will enable us to pass the message to the class teacher. We cannot guarantee later messages can be delivered before the end of the school day.
- Ensure all uniform, lunch boxes, water bottles etc are clearly named. We are not able to return unnamed items to children.

HASLEMERE LIBRARY SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Before the Summer Holidays, the local library staff came to tell the children how to take part in Mischief Makers, the Summer Reading Challenge. Well done to everyone who took part and was able to read six books over the summer holidays. If you and your child haven't been able to get back to the library there is still time as the challenge finishes on **Saturday 15th September**. There are rewards and stickers for every 2 books read so don't worry if you haven't been able to read all six. Why not go and tell the staff at the local library about the library books that you enjoyed reading over the holidays and collect the rewards. Everyone that does finish the Summer Reading Challenge by reading all 6 books will get a certificate, and don't forget that everyone who finishes has the chance to win a Beano album!

WHYTE HORSES CHOIR

We were very proud of our choir as they performed in the Whyte Horses Experience at the Royal Festival Hall last night. They supported the group in a song called Fake Protest Song from their new album and then performed She Owns the World. They were looking forward to performing Elusive Mr Jimmy with Badly Drawn Boy but he pulled out at the last minute. However, rather than giving up we were extremely proud of Tamara Hendin who took on the lead vocals and performed the song with the choir, with the Whyte Horses supporting us! It was a fantastic evening and one which we and the children will remember. Mrs Hollyer and Mr Beckerson.



EARRINGS AND UNIFORM POLICY

We appear to be seeing an increased number of children coming into school wearing earrings. May we please remind parents that these are NOT permitted as part of our school uniform policy and for health and safety reasons.



HASLEMERE FOOD BANK

Please see below the current requests from Haslemere Food Bank, along with thanks for the donations already received from St Bartholomew's. There is a collection box in the reception area if you wish to donate. They currently require (all non perishables please):-

Tinned Spaghetti/Ravioli	Tinned Stew	Jam & Marmalade	Soap
Tinned Potatoes	Tinned Fruit	Toilet Rolls	Toothpaste
Tinned Tomatoes	Small Packs of Sugar	Shampoo	

They would also be very grateful for donations of **carrier bags** to aid distribution. No other items are required at present. Thank you for your continued support.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

School lunches cost £2.30 per day, or £11.50 per week. If you require a lunch for your child, please advise the school office by 9.30am on the day. School lunches should be paid for using the online system, or by cheque (payable to Surrey County Council) or cash. **Please ensure payment is made as soon as possible.** (Pupils in Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2 qualify for a universal free school meal and therefore payment is not required).

First half term - £73.60

Second half term - £87.40

Total for Autumn Term - £161.00

Yours faithfully,

C. D. Beckerson

Charles Beckerson
HEADTEACHER