



September 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back – I hope that you all had an enjoyable summer and a smooth start to the new school year.

Over the summer we were pleased to be able to complete some works in the school. Our new sensory garden was started and will be soon completed for our PD children. A great deal of general maintenance and deep cleaning of the school was also done. I would like to take the opportunity to thank the site team for their hard work, ensuring that we work and study in a safe and well maintained environment.

Our children look lovely in their new uniforms please do remember to name all clothing. Our lost uniform bins are already filling up.

At the start of term there have been a lot of letters going home and there will be more coming out for clubs, school trips and photos. The majority of our communications are now sent by ParentMail and placed on the website, some requiring permission slips are sent home.

We have welcomed a number of staff and children across the school. It has been particularly delightful to welcome the new nursery and reception children. Our newsletter will update you in more detail of those staff and where they will be working. The newsletter will be published on a monthly basis this year and placed on the website following a parent mail. We will of course print paper copies for those parents who cannot access the website.

We are continuing with the daily walk a mile, our route is currently being planned by our Year 6 pupils. We know that this improved fitness and behaviour of children last year. It's a lovely way to start lunchtimes as it's a great opportunity to get to know pupils informally while walking around the school field. Once again we will invite parents to share this daily school event throughout the year.

We have worked hard to improve our club provision and have been able to offer an increased range. We are desperate for help to run our gardening club, which Mrs Libertucci has agreed to run on a Friday evening. If any parents or grandparents would like to help with this after school please do contact the school office.

Reading is vitally important for all children's development, if anyone would like to volunteer to come into school to listen to children read, during the afternoon sessions, again we would be delighted to hear from you.

Our big drive this year is improving the attainment of phonics and reading. We were successful in a bid to deliver Read Write Inc, which has enabled resources to be purchased and a year-long staff training package implemented to improve our practice. We will be hosting a series of parent workshops and there is a link to the Ruth Miskin Read Write Inc website for parents to access on the website.

We are developing extended writing opportunities across all curriculum areas through Talk for Writing. Please see the newsletter for details of termly literacy focus and events as well as the parent calendar on the website <http://www.twydallprimary.org.uk/> .

Our English book theme for term 1 are stories by Roald Dahl and term 2 are war poems.

Curriculum – please refer to the school website for details of the curriculum your children are following, spellings for each year group and how parents can support learning. The home learning projects are also to be found here.

We are delivering a Maths Mastery Curriculum which involves problem solving and numerical reasoning. Parents can find the Maths curriculum and timestables expectations on the website as well as Maths parent booklets and maths apps. We will be holding Maths workshops for parents during the course of the year.

Congratulations to all of the children who sat the 11+. It can be a daunting way to start the year but they all took the process in their stride. Many thanks to the Year 6 staff for giving the children breakfast and ensuring a positive experience.

We are continuing to develop our links with Woodchurch House and would like to extend our community engagement with Holy Trinity Church. We have been invited to attend their harvest and Christmas celebrations.

We have a number of events happening, Jeans for Genes day on Friday 21st September and our McMillian Coffee event at 1.30pm on Friday 28th September where we hope to relaunch our PTFA. Please do come along to support us, details will follow.

Our attendance is currently 93.2% and the national target is 95%. Good punctuality is essential for learning.

Good attendance and punctuality is vital. We know that children will get coughs and colds during the course of the year and that this will result in perhaps a few days off school but other than that children should be in school regularly and arrive on time. Children should aim for 100% attendance. Attendance below 95% is deemed to be low and below 90% poor. If illness or personal circumstances arise which may impact on your child's attendance, please let us know so that we can support you with this. Parents will be asked to see Mrs Logan where attendance causes a concern. Holiday absence will not be authorised. Whilst we understand the importance of families having holiday time together, we are not in a position to authorise absence of this nature.

We look forward to working with all the children, parents and carers, building on our hard work last year and phenomenal Key Stage 2 results.

I encourage you to contact the school or myself directly should you have concerns or ideas to support the school.

Kind regards



Mrs C Logan

