

CLASS ONE

Welcome back!

A new term:

Welcome back to all of our old pupils and hello to our new classmate, Isaac! We hope you all had a great summer! This newsletter will hopefully give you a few ideas of the kind of things the children in Class One will be getting up to in the coming weeks.

Forest Schools:

This year, I am making enquiries about taking Class 1 to local Forest School classes. We are hoping to be able to catch the train to the area the classes are held and I will keep you updated with any developments!

New pupils:

As you may realise, we currently have a few spaces available in Class 1 so if you know of anyone who has children of Nursery or Reception age who may be interested in joining our school, please send them our way. Any new children who take up a place will earn you a discount off your following term's fees. Please see myself or Mrs Hall for more details.



Milkshake Madness!

This term, one of the books we are looking at is 'Oliver's Milkshake'. Oliver goes to a farm with his aunt to find ingredients for making milkshakes and learns about the different fruits that could be used. We have already been having a go at making milkshakes of our own, with a trip to the supermarket to buy the ingredients. We have even been on a trip to 'Shakeaway' in town to see what it is like in a milkshake shop. We have decided to set up a Smoothie Bar of our own and will be making signs, menus and posters over the coming weeks. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were very well behaved for us. They are looking forward to being able to run their own milkshake shop in school.





General notices and reminders:

- All children will receive homework every night in the form of reading. The Reception children will also be given a piece of Literacy or Numeracy every Monday to Thursday. Please sign their reading and homework diaries each night to show that work set has been completed.
- As we are hoping to go on regular trips this term, I would like to ask that all children have their hats, blazers and winter coats in school everyday so we can make a decision at short notice if the weather is suitable.
- Snack money this term comes to £13. I am grateful to those of you who have already paid and would like to remind everyone that you have a choice of paying weekly at £1 a week, or termly at £13 for the term. Thank you.
- For any parents who are interested in learning more about the Early Years please visit www.gov.uk/early-years-foundation-stage.

Confidence building in Maths

A lot of children find that they struggle with maths and problem solving. This can make them feel that they are not good at maths and often we can tell children not to worry, they may not be good at maths but they are good at other things. Having done a lot of reading and research over the summer holidays, the staff throughout the school are trying to tackle this way of thinking as it gives children a negative, fixed mindset. We are working towards giving the children a mathematical growth mindset that says, "Ok, so I can't do it right now, so what can I do to solve it?"

One of the best ways to help children develop a positive mindset towards maths is to encourage group work and to talk about and visualise/draw mathematical problems. With this in mind, the children throughout the school will be doing a lot more group work in maths but will regularly work with different children, not just those that are seemingly at the same level as them. We feel that this will have a great impact on the children's confidence and ultimately their attainment in maths.

If you have any queries about our different approach, then please watch out for information about our upcoming open evening when we will go into more detail about our new ways of working with the children.

