



## Autumn Term 2020 Newsletter 1

It was wonderful to welcome back the children last week. They came in with such enthusiasm and all the staff were so impressed with how well they adapted to the new routines and got back into school life. We were extremely proud of them all. I am sure they were very tired this weekend!

Each year group is currently exploring a different value this half term through books, art and discussion within their classrooms.

Year 1 – kindness

Year 4 – cooperation

Year 2 - bravery

Year 5 – respect

Year 3 – community

Year 6 – hope

I will share some of the lovely work they are doing over the next few weeks.

### Staffing Update

Miss Sutton has now started her maternity leave and we wish her lots of luck over the coming months. In her absence, Miss Cooper has become our Assistant Head teacher for this year. She will continue all her fabulous work in Early Years but also take on additional responsibilities within school. We also welcome Emma Greene to the Office. She will be working mornings as our new receptionist.

### End of the Day

Just a reminder not to arrive too early to collect children at the end of the day. In KS2, once your child has been sent down to you **please leave** so the next child can be sent. A couple of parents have asked if they can wear masks or a face covering on the playground to collect their children at the end of the day. This is completely fine.

### Zones of Regulation

All the classes from Year 1 to 6 have been focusing on Zones of Regulation. We adopted a Zones of Regulation approach to help support children to self-regulate and learn about their own and others' emotions. The Zones are:

**The Green Zone** – when we are in the Green Zone we can be calm, happy, focused or content. When we are in the Green Zone we are ready to learn.

**The Blue Zone** - when we are in the Blue Zone we can be sad, tired, bored or feel under the weather.

**The Yellow Zone** – when we are in the Yellow Zone we can be frustrated, anxious, excited, silly, worried or any slightly elevated emotion.

**The Red Zone** – a person in the Red Zone is in a high state of alert or experiencing very intense emotions. We can be angry, panicking, terrified or elated.

The children are taught that we all (adults included) experience these emotions and that no emotion is negative. Through our Zones of Regulation, we will be teaching children strategies to help them 'get back to green'. I will share more of this through the newsletter as the term progresses. A **BIG THANK YOU** to FOMS who have helped with the purchase of a range of new books for the classrooms to support this.

### **Year 6 and Secondary Schools**

Alongside the newsletter today, Year 6 parents will also receive information about secondary school visits and the application process. Although many secondary schools have planned for open evenings, we have been asked to let you know that these may not go ahead and to check the school websites before attending.

The online application system is now open at [www.eadmissions.org.uk](http://www.eadmissions.org.uk). All parents must apply online, paper forms are not available. The website has been redesigned so has a new look this year, step-by-step guidance on how to submit an online application is included in the attachments. Parents can call the School Admissions Customer Services Team on 02083597651 for support and guidance. **The deadline for applications is the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020.**

If you have a child with an Education, Health and Care Plan you will be contacted by the SEN Team as you will need to complete a different form.

Many schools have delayed selection test dates due to COVID-19, which means that parents may not get the results of tests until after 31 October. Where a test result might affect the outcome of an application, parents will be able to change their preferences up until 10 December.

### **Government Guidance Update**

There are regular updates to the guidance for schools so as anything changes, I will let you know. There are some changes to the way that PE can be taught and some lessons can now take place inside (with windows and doors open). We have still selected non-contact activities (either dance or athletics) for this half term.

### **Schools and Covid Study**

On Friday, Public Health England published their preliminary report. You can read the full report [here](#).

The report concludes that there is no evidence that pupils and staff who were in schools were at increased risk of COVID-19, compared to the general population, and infection and transmission rates were low in preschool and primary schools under surveillance during the summer.