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**\*Remember to book your child's school dinners for the coming week\***

## Newsletter

### Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome back to a new school year. It has been so lovely to have all the children and staff back to school and finding out what they have been up to over the summer break. Staff have been very impressed with the children and how they have settled so quickly to new routines and systems set up inside the classrooms and around the school. The children's attitude to learning activities and challenges has also been fantastic as we are aware that for many of them it has been a considerably long time since they were last in school; a big well done to everyone!

Thank you to all our parents for their support with drop off and pick-ups at the beginning and end of the day. With the governments 'Rule of 6' coming into place on Monday, can we please remind you about social distancing during these busy times of the day. Class 2 children are to use the side entrance to the school, parents can either drop off at the top of the lane or walk their children down to the side gate using our one-way system. Can we ask that for pick up that class 2 parents make their way down the left-hand side of the lane, towards the side gate of the playground as very often staff cannot see parents if they are waiting at the top. Class 1 children will continue to enter and exit through the main entrance, with parents waiting outside for pick up. Once again, many thanks for your continual support.

Have a lovely weekend  
Mrs Cook



## New Reception Children

A big warm welcome to our new reception children who have settled into class 1 beautifully. They have shown fantastic listening skills as well as great collaboration in our new builders' yard in our role play area. If you have any materials or toys that could

help to support the children's learning in our role play area, please speak to Mrs Cook or Mrs Walter.

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## Behaviour Reward System

This week the children have had discussions about 'yes please' and 'no thank you' behaviour choices and established classroom rules in order to keep everyone safe whilst at school. The children have created their own classroom rules which will be displayed next week. They have also begun collecting their gold stars for demonstrating 'yes please' behaviour.

We will be rewarding certificates to the children for their efforts:

**50 gold stars = bronze certificate**

**100 gold stars = silver certificate**

**200 gold stars = gold certificate**

**300 gold stars = platinum certificate**

Children can receive gold stars throughout the day from all members of staff for displaying a wide range of 'yes please' behaviour choices.



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## Reading With Your Child at Home

Your child/ren will have come home with a reading book or several books to share with you at home. We are asking that the children read every day to an adult, even if they are a developed or free reader. Our parents reading support guide has lots of ideas and suggested questions to ask your children as they are reading to check their understanding, make careful predictions and discuss character & plot. These are skills that can only be developed through discussion and understanding of what they are reading. Your child/ren will also have a reading record book. We ask that after hearing your child read that you record your comments in this book. Staff will collect in reading record books every Tuesday and Thursday and gold stars will be rewarded for their reading at home. Tuesdays and Thursdays will also be the day when we change over books for the children.



## **Weekly PE Lessons**

Both classes will have weekly PE lessons each Friday afternoon. To accommodate our health and safety assessment and ease the transition between lessons, we are asking that the children come to school each Friday in their PE kit and trainers with their school jumper or cardigan. As the weather is beginning to change, we ask that children wear tracksuit bottoms as our PE lessons will take place outside.

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## **Parents Meetings**

Over the next few weeks staff will be carrying out assessments of all the children so we can plan specific 'keep up' sessions and support all children with their knowledge and understanding of the curriculum. Our parent's meetings will be held remotely through a 15-minute 'Microsoft Teams' meeting and will take place the week beginning Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October. We hope that collaborating together with parents, we can help to support your child/ren to '*Let their Light Shine*' and strive to be the best that they can be. More information on how to sign up for a slot with your child's class teacher will be available in next week's newsletter.

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## **Forest School**

Forest School will continue this year every Thursday with class 2 having their session in the morning and class 1 in the afternoon. We are asking that children bring in their wellies to be left in school for the half term. These will be stored outside in our new forest school shed. If you have any resources (wood, pallets etc) that would be useful for our sessions, please see Mr Thomas.



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## **Swimming**

This year our swimming sessions will take place after the October half term, with class 2 swimming for the first 7 sessions and Class 1 following in January. More information on this will be available shortly.

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## **Clothing**

Please can all children bring a coat to school daily and wear their school jumper as the school can feel quite chilly due to the windows being open for ventilation. A drinks bottle will also be required daily and can be re-filled with water, should a child require a top up.

Schoolgateway



### **School Gateway**

Reminder: Please can we ask that parents are signed up to the School Gateway **App**. Although you can access the system using their website it's not as reliable as using the app. The app pops up with a notification on your phone when we send out messages. whereas with the website you would have to log in regularly to check if we've been in touch. If you are currently using the app but aren't receiving notifications on your device, go to your phone settings and 'allow' notifications for school gateway. Any problems, please get in touch.



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### **School Dinners**

Devon Norse is now able to provide all children with a hot school meal from Monday. If your child would like to have a school dinner from the new summer menu, please book through School Gateway. Meals can be booked up until 9am the same day. Please make sure that when making a booking your choices are not left in the basket and that you've fully checked out.