



Dates for your Diary:

Mon 7 Sept– After home-time collect, pop into class so your child can show you around

Wed 9 Sept – Year R children first 'proper' day.

Tues 22 Sept – NHS Flu Vaccinations (info next week)

Tues 22 Sept – 2.45pm Info for Squirrels parents re phonics

Thurs 8 Oct – 9.15am Info for Dormice parents re phonics & classroom

Tues 13 & Thurs 22 Oct – Parents Evenings

Mon 26-Fri 30 Oct Half Term

Mon 2 Nov INSET Closure

Tues 3 First Day back

Welcome back to a new school year! It was lovely to see everyone and hear about all the things children have been doing over the holiday. The excitement of being back in school is always what makes this time of year great. Excitement might not be the right word for everyone – some children of course get very comfortable with the relaxed pace and demands when being at home on holiday and find the adjustment back harder. Hopefully just having two initial days really helps them adjust back into routine! Certainly in school it has felt very calm and happy.

Pop in After School on Monday

One of the diary dates we sent out back in July was an opportunity to pop into school after home time to see you child's new class. Collect as normal on the playground and they can take you in and show you around – where they sit, where they put their things etc. This will be especially relevant to Years 1,3 and 5 who have changed classes but Years 2, 4 and 6 will also enjoy the opportunity! Please note new Year R parents will be able to visit class in a few weeks time.

Year 6 Buddies Responsibility

Our Year 6 children have already made a great start to their buddy responsibilities and enjoyed this morning when new year Rs had their last visit. They start properly on Wednesday next week so look out for our new families. It would be helpful if Year 6 children were able to be here ready to receive their buddies, ideally from 8.45am when I come out onto the gate. A reminder too for Year R parents that a good arrival time is towards the end of the arrival window, just before 8.55am which gives time for everyone to be ready!

Welcome to...

We welcomed a new member to our team this week, Miss Jordan who has joined Squirrels Class (Yrs 1&2). She will be helping as a learning support assistant (LSA) and will cover Miss Fradley who will shortly be going off on Maternity leave. For a few weeks they will both be in Squirrels Class so Miss Jordan can shadow. Please note that she finishes before the end of the school day so parents are unlikely to see her at home time – Mrs Mildren will be there at the end of the day so may be more visible. Just to confirm, staffing for each class:
Dormice Class: Mrs Mason & Miss Knight (LSA)
Squirrels Class: Mrs Ford (Tues-Fri)/ Mrs Sothcott (Mon) & Mrs Mildren (LSA) Miss Jordan (LSA) and for a few weeks Miss Fradley (LSA)
Hedgehogs Class: Mrs Bird & Mrs Lee (LSA)
Badgers Class: Miss Leech & Mrs Haywood (LSA)

Year 3 Parents – School Lunches

We sent an email earlier this week to Year 3 parents explaining that now they are no longer infants, they are not eligible for the Government Policy of free lunches – if they would like a school lunch you will need to pay! This can be easily set up in the Arbor App. Please note that if your child's account is not regularly cleared/ topped up, which is easily to forget, we will send reminder statements to alert you.

Communications this week:

- Tues 2nd Sept** – Email to Year 3 parents re school lunches



INSET Days left for 26/27

- Mon 2 Nov
- Mon 4 Jan
- Mon 22 Feb

Amazing Surroundings

Our crop of apples is very disappointing this year – a clear result of the trees being under stress due to lack of rain all summer. The few apples which are still on the trees were eagerly harvested by children at playtime. This led to lots of discussion about the risks of fallen apples attracting wasps and the other insects that also enjoy eating them.

Other children enjoyed other discoveries around the grounds – how the grass has started to turn green again having been brown in July and some children even spotted strange stalactite-like structures on a tree where sap has dripped and formed shapes. I love it when children get excited about a natural discovery like this – it's spiritual learning in action – the sense of wonder in the world, which we represent with the window image – see for yourself!

