

Learning Together, Believing Together



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Thursday, 10th September 2015

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to another very exciting new school year. I hope that you had an enjoyable summer break and that you are ready to get back in to the swing of school life. We would like to wish a warm welcome to all of our new pupils and parents; Barcombe is a very special place and I am sure that it will not take long for you to become part of our school 'family'. Welcome to George who has joined Owls Class, Cara and Luca who have joined Foxes Class and George who has joined Badgers Class. This week, of course, we will be welcoming our new Reception intake to Barcombe CE School; a big welcome to Lily-May, Millie, Alfred, Sylvia, Joshua, Susannah, Edith, Phoebe, Scarlett, Seb, Beatrice, Mollie, Ciaran and Albert who will be joining Hedgehog Class.

Some of you will be aware we also have a new member of staff to welcome to our team. Mr Brooker is the class teacher for Foxes Class. Mr Brooker is an extremely experienced teacher and is passionate about computing, technology, science, maths and is a fully qualified countryside ranger.

The staffing team have been working hard planning lots of exciting learning opportunities for the children, ensuring their learning is creative and full of real life learning experiences both in and out of the classroom! This year we are starting the year with our learning journey 'Take One Picture'. 'Take One Picture' is a National Schools focus organised each year by the National Gallery. This year the picture is a painting entitled Mr and Mrs Andrews by Thomas Gainsborough.



The Growth Mind set

This year our learning behaviour developmental focus will show the children how they are able to adopt behaviours that can 'grow their brains'. This understanding comes from research by Professor of Psychology, Carol Dweck. Throughout the year the teachers will be helping the children to adopt a belief that everybody has the potential to achieve extraordinary things. I will be sharing more about the Growth Mind Set with you very soon.

Class Charities

The children will soon be focusing on their class charity for this academic year. Before these are chosen by the children I would just like to say a big thank you to everyone who helped us last year to support some very worthwhile causes. We have sent £42 to Raystede (Hedgehogs Class Charity), £145 to Shooting Star Chase (Squirrels Class Charity), £100 to The Bevern Trust (Badgers Class Charity), £182.50 to Christian Aid (Foxes Class charity) and Owls Class raised £638 to cover the cost of their participation in the annual Patina Parade in Lewes.

School Dinners

School dinners now cost $\underline{\textbf{£2.03}}$ per day; please ensure that your child has sufficient money in their **named** container if they are having a school lunch. Your child may be entitled to a free school meal; please see our office staff to confirm if you are eligible. **Please remember all children in Reception, Year One and Year Two are entitled to free school meals as part of the new government initiative.**

Cool Milk

Milk is available every day for your child in school. Please ask in the School Office for details.

Water Bottles

It is extremely important the children have water bottles in school every day! Please ensure you provide a water bottle with your child's name on it and it is with them in school every day!

School Uniform

Thank you for getting your children ready for the new school year. They look very smart in their uniforms. Please can I remind you that, as stated in our prospectus, we ask that our children wear sensible, dark coloured shoes to school; **trainers are to be worn for PE sessions only.** It would be helpful too, if you could ensure that all items of clothing are marked with your children's names. In addition to their PE kit all children should be provided with an art shirt/apron.

Lost Property

All lost property is stored in a central location outside the School Hall. In addition to this; Year 6 children will sort and attempt to return named items on Friday afternoons. **Please clearly label your child's property.**

<u>Timings of the School Day</u>

The school gate is open to children from 08.35hrs every day and the school doors open at 08.45hrs; children must not arrive earlier than 08.35hrs as the school cannot be responsible for them before this time.

It is expected that your child arrives at school on time every day.

School Security

To ensure we continue to provide a safe / secure environment for all children to flourish we request that no adults / parents come into school without having signed in at Reception. This

will mean parents will not be able to enter the school through any entrance except the main entrance.

Contact Details

Please ensure that the School Office has your up-to-date contact details; it is vital that we are able to contact you in case of any emergency involving your child.

Clubs

Clubs are being finalised and information about these will be sent out next week. All clubs will start in week 3.

KEY DATES

Monday 14th Sept. – 9am - Owls Class Curriculum Meeting

Tuesday 15th Sept. – 9am – Badgers Class Curriculum Meeting

Wednesday 16th Sept. – 9am – Squirrels Class Curriculum Meeting

Thursday 17th Sept. – 9am-Foxes Class Curriculum Meeting

Monday 21st Sept. – 9am – Hedgehogs Class Curriculum Meeting

Thursday 24th September – 9am – Harvest Service at St. Mary's Church

Thursday 8th Oct. – Cross Country Yr. 3,4,5,6

Wednesday 14th Oct. – Parent Consultations – 3.30-5.30pm

Thursday 15th Oct.- Football Festival at Chailey School

Tuesday 20th Oct. – Parent Consultations – 4-6pm

Thursday 22nd Oct. – Parent Consultations – 6-8pm

Friday 23rd Oct.-- Celebration Afternoon 'Take One Picture' 1.30 – 2.45pm

Friday 23rd Oct.- - Last Day of Term 1

Monday 2nd Nov. – First Day Term 2

Thursday 12th Nov. – Parents Forum – 6pm

Best Wishes

Mr S James Head Teacher

