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Monday 20th July 2015

Dear Parents and Carers

We are just about at the end of an extremely busy year. The children have all worked tremendously hard and are now in need of some well-earned rest and relaxation. I would like to start by saying a very big thank you to everyone for the continued support of the school throughout the year! We are very lucky; we have a brilliant little school with a committed team of parents, governors, teachers and support staff all focused on our vision of high quality, inclusive education at the heart of our community.

Developing Knowledge Of Buddhism

On Wednesday 1st July Caroline Drake visited classes to share her experiences and beliefs as a practicing Buddhist. The children thoroughly enjoyed learning more about Buddhist beliefs from Caroline and had the opportunity to ask some insightful questions.

Sports Day

Thank you to everyone who ensured sports day was a really fantastic well supported occasion again this year. The children all tried their best and demonstrated great sportsmanship encouraging each other whilst competing and cheering their team. Well done to everyone; however particular praise must go to the Red Team for winning the team event again this year.

Break Out Of Barcombe

The final Break Out days have been completed this year. Hedgehogs Class enjoyed a fantastic morning at 'Wild About Barcombe' whilst the Year 6 children enjoyed a very wet morning of Coracle building at Knowlands Wood! Thank you to the So Sussex team for some really fantastic Break Out experiences this year.

PATINA

On Friday 10th July our Year 6 leavers celebrated the transition of moving to Secondary School at the annual PATINA parade in Lewes. This year the theme was 'Wildlife Of The South Downs'. Barcombe children had spent the previous fortnight building and painting individual eggs and a huge Skylark that they paraded through the streets. I would like to say a huge thank you to the parents who gave up their time to help the children get the structures completed.

OFSTED

Thank you to everyone who has congratulated our team following the release of our OFSTED inspection report. We are all very proud of the outcomes and really look forward to continuing to develop and grow the school further during 2015-16 and beyond.

Arrangements for 2015/ 16

Hedgehogs Class: Reception/ Year 1 – Class Teacher: Miss Eaglen – TA: Miss Gonzalez Hernandez

Squirrels Class: Year One/ Two – Class Teacher: Miss Stocker – TA: Mrs Matthews – School Direct Student: Mr Olsen

Badgers Class: Year Two/ Three – Class Teacher: Mrs Mather – TA: Mrs Wigley

Foxes Class: Year Four/ Five – Class Teacher: Mr Brooker – HLTA: Mrs Edwards

Owls Class: Year Six – Class Teacher: Mrs Force – HLTA: Mrs Coppard

SEN Team: Mrs Pryor (Inclusion Manager), Mrs Cullen / Mrs Montebello (SEN focus INA / TA) , Mrs Stone / Mrs Beckwith (Afternoon booster groups), Mrs Kelly (Intensive 1:1/ small group support)

We will be continuing with the arrangement we have followed for the last two years in the infants; whereby the Year groups will be taught individually from 9am- 1.30pm. This will mean the Year Two children will be taught by Mrs Stone and Mrs Beckwith; Mrs Tomsett will be the group TA during the morning sessions for Literacy, Maths and Guided Reading in a modernised space in the old Bubble area.

This arrangement ensures children will be taught in small class sizes with excellent adult to child ratios for sessions where they are acquiring the key skills of phonics, reading, writing and maths.

PTA Picnic

Thank you to everyone who came to support the PTA picnic yesterday. It was a really fantastic afternoon and lots of fun was had by all. It was so lovely to see so many families supporting the event and having a really brilliant afternoon. I would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Pendered and Mrs Strong for all their planning, organising and work on the day. I would also like to say a huge thank you to the rest of the PTA and everyone who came and supported this wonderful event. I felt the event demonstrated everything that is fantastic about this special little school and our community. Well done everyone!

Finally I would like to wish the Year 6 children and their families' good luck as you start your new adventures. Thank you for being a brilliant Year 6 and have fun at your new schools. We will miss you and be thinking of you in September.

To everyone else I hope you all have a safe, relaxing Summer holiday and I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Key Dates for Term 1

Wednesday 2nd September - INSET

Thursday 3rd September – INSET

Friday 4th September – INSET

Monday 7th September - First day of Term 1 for all children.

Best wishes

Mr S James
Head Teacher

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East Sussex County Council

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