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Learning Together, Believing Together

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Friday 23rd October 2015

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are finally at the end of an extremely busy and enjoyable first term. I really cannot believe we have been back at school for seven weeks! The children have started the year incredibly positively and I have already seen lots of exciting learning happening. It is now time for everyone to have a little rest so they can recharge their batteries ready for term 2.

Open Mornings – Encouraging Parents to send their children to our wonderful school!

This year we only welcomed 14 children into our Reception class. For the school to maintain its extremely high standards we must ensure we have 20 children starting each year. Our open mornings for new parents of children due to start in September 2016 are:

Wednesday 25th November - 9.30 – 11.30am

Wednesday 2nd December - 9.30 – 11.30am.

Parents will receive a guided tour of the school followed by a presentation from myself and Miss Eaglen, the EYFS leader. Please encourage friends from Barcombe and the surrounding areas to come and visit this very special little school.

Mad Hatters Tea / Coffee Morning

Today we celebrated the end of our 'Take One Picture' learning journey with a Mad Hatters Tea / Coffee morning. As part of our Art / DT curriculum the children have been learning about hats! Many of the classes have been designing and making hats and today was an opportunity to show off all their wonderful creativity and effort. Parents were also able to visit the children's classes and share all the wonderful work on display. Thank you once again to our wonderful PTA for providing refreshments.

Growth Mind Set

Our Growth Mind Set characteristics are being celebrated throughout the school. The children have continued to think about how they can help themselves to improve their ability to learn. The Growth Mind Set characteristics of resilience, collaboration, imagination, creativity and discipline are displayed throughout the school, within classes and are discussed in relation to the children's attitudes to learning daily. Please encourage your children to celebrate these attitudes and characteristics at home. At the Parents Forum on Thursday 12th November at 6pm I will share more Growth Mind Set philosophy with you and talk to you about how you as parents can foster this belief in the children.

Break Out Of Barcombe

Yesterday the children in Year 2 enjoyed a Break Out Experience. The children walked to Knowlands wood where they cooked pancakes over an open fire, collected a range of natural materials to make puppets and worked with the Break Out team in drama and role play activities. The children also created prints in paint using the materials they had collected. The adults and children particularly enjoyed learning about all the different species of bugs and wildlife as they walked to the woods!

Reception Welly Walk

Yesterday the Reception children went on a Welly Walk across the Recreation ground and in to Wild About Barcombe. They collected and counted acorns and conkers, collected lots of sticks, leaves and natural materials and used these to make patterns and shapes, they measured the materials against each other and developed their use of language. Everyone had a fantastic time!

Year 6 go to Glyndebourne Opera

The children in Year 6 travelled to Glyndebourne Opera House yesterday afternoon to enjoy a performance of 'Die Entführung aus dem serial Mozart'. The opera is set in the 18th Century; the same period as Thomas Gainsborough painted Mr and Mrs Gainsborough.

Sport

This week a group of children from Year 5 and Year 6 competed at the cross country partnership finals at Beacon School - Stanley Pendered, Sophie Nurse, Emilie Oakden, Maddy Bullen, Kitty Jenkinson Rebecka Greenwood and Ruairi Lamont. All the children represented the school and the local cluster brilliantly. Sophie Nurse came first in the girls' event, with Emilie Oakden finishing 4th and Maddy Bullen finished 14th. Stanley Pendered came 6th in the boys' event. All of these children will now represent the school at the county finals in March.

Last week a group of children from Year 5 and Year 6 represented the school at the Chailey Cluster football tournament. The children played really well and came 3rd.

Date for the diary: Parents' Forum

Last year the school started the parents' forum. This is a chance for parents to meet with myself and discuss the direction of the school for the current and future academic years, plans for curriculum development and changes to the curriculum at a National level or any other specific concern they would like to discuss. **The next date for the parents' forum is Thursday 12th November at 6pm. I do hope as many parents as possible will be able to attend.**

Upcoming Dates:

Monday 2nd November – Start of Term 2
Thursday 5th November – Badgers Class Assembly (Change of Date) 9am
Friday 6th November – Yrs. 3-6 to visit The National Gallery
Thursday 12th November – Hedgehogs Class Assembly 9am. Parents Forum (6pm)
Monday 16th November – Alice In Wonderland film viewing- Foxes Class
Wednesday 18th November – Key Stage 1 film morning- 'Home' – Burgess Hill
Thursday 19th November – Squirrels Class Assembly
Friday 20th November - Yr. 6 Take Over Day
Tuesday 24th November – Individual children's' photos
Wednesday 25th November – New Parents Open Morning
Friday 27th November - Yr.1 Break Out Of Barcombe
Wednesday 2nd December – New Parents Open Morning
Thursday 3rd December – Owls Class Assembly (Change of Date)
Tuesday 8th December – Yr.6 Big Sing – Winter Garden, Eastbourne
Thursday 10th December – KS1 Christmas Performance
Friday 11th December – Reception Break Out Of Barcombe
Tuesday 15th December – Yr. 6 to Chailey Secondary –Beauty and the Beast
Wednesday 16th December – Christmas Carol service @ St. Mary's. Christmas Lunch
Friday 18th December – INSET – No children in school

I would like to wish you all a very enjoyable and restful half term holiday. I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 2nd November.

Best Wishes.

Mr S James
Head Teacher

