



RW/tb

16 September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Autumn Term 2022 Newsletter 1

Phew! What a busy start to the term it has been! As we come to the end of our second week, routines are back to normal, trips are happening, food tech lessons and PE are up and running and there is a real buzz in the air.

I've a few bits to share with you as we start our new year.

Welcome

As well as welcoming our 55 new students and their families to Market Field, we say hello to some new staff. Sophie Hancock & Katie Leggett have both joined our Speech and Language team as Maternity cover.

We welcome back Nurse Kayly one day a week in a Nurse Consultant role. She will be supporting Suzanne, our Care Coordinator with referrals, training and specialist meetings. Suzanne will remain the primary contact within school for medical concerns.

We welcome Mrs Baxter, Mrs Firman, Miss Gethin, Mrs Moreton, Miss Stanmore and Miss Tansley to our LSA teams. Welcome to you all!

Mr Dwight and myself have been busy interviewing this week and we will be welcoming additional LSA's to our team over the next few weeks.

Name Change

Miss Gridley, one of the class teachers in Pine class got married over the summer holiday and is now Mrs Hawken. We offer both Mrs and Mr Hawken our warmest congratulations.



School Dinners

The dinner menu for this term is available on Dojo and is on the website. Chef Pauline has asked me to tell you that the kitchen is experiencing some difficulties in obtaining particular items. The menus will be subject to change at short notice if items are not available. We ask that school dinners are paid for in advance, using Pay360. Any problems, please contact Gemma in the school office.

Parental Permission

Please could you ensure that you have given the office the names of people who are authorised to pick up your child. By law, if we do not have their name on our systems, we are not allowed to let the child leave with them. This has caused problems this week.

Similarly, if there is going to be a change of plan to your normal evening routines and you or someone else will be picking your child up from us, rather than them going home on the bus or to a club, we ask that you let us know as soon as possible.

Absence

If your child is going to be absent from school, through illness, medical appointment or for any other reason, please let the school office know as well as the bus company. If the answerphone is on, please leave a message.

Star of the Week

I have made some changes to Star of the Week assembly which I know some of you have heard about. As well as there being a Class Star of the week, I will also be awarding a Head Teacher's Star of the Week certificate, linked to the school values of Respect, Excellence and Friendship. Children who win a Star of the Week certificate or Head Teacher's Star of the Week will have the opportunity to join me for a hot chocolate (or a cold option) the following week.

I have been delighted to award 34 certificates in assembly today and look forward to meeting all our winners for hot chocolate and a chat next week.

School Values

Following work on our non-pupil days, we are linking our expectations around behaviour to our school values of Respect, Excellence and Friendship. We have been reinforcing these expectations over the past few weeks and will be continuing to do so. As part of this, we have had a school competition running this week to highlight students who truly show school values.

There were a lot of nominations from our teaching staff, but our overall winners were Dylan from Holly, Oliver from Poplar, Devon from Chestnut, Danny from class E, Evie-Rose from 8D, Xander from 11L, Tom from B and James from S. They will all be receiving a £10 Amazon voucher. We will be running this competition termly and I look forward to seeing lots of nominations over the next few months.

National Teaching Assistant Day

Today is National Teaching Assistant Day. It seems right that I acknowledge this and recognise the tremendous job our team of Learning Support Assistants do on a daily basis. They truly are an indispensable team who work so hard to enrich the lives of the children they support. Thank you to all of them.

Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening will be on Tuesday, 4th October for the whole school and will be an opportunity to meet your child's Form Tutor or Class Teacher. This will be by appointment only and further information will be sent out shortly.

Playground Improvement Scheme

Following pupil and parent voices, we will be making improvements to our school playgrounds across the school over the next academic year. As part of this, we have set up a Working Party to listen to the views of students and staff. We would love to hear from any parents who would like to be involved in this. If you would like to be involved, please contact Mr Dwight directly using the class Dojo messaging links.

Additional Dates for the Diary

Monday 19th September - Bank Holiday

Monday 10th October - Individual School Photos

24th-28th October - Half Term

Week commencing 12th December - School Christmas performances (tbc, further information to follow)

Uniform

A quick reminder to ensure your child has the correct items of clothing with them for the changeable weather especially at this time of year; warm coats/jackets, hats, gloves (wellies if necessary) as we head into winter.

We regularly receive lost items in the office or staffroom that we cannot return to the appropriate person because they are not named. Please ensure all clothing and lunch boxes etc are clearly named.

And finally

I just want to thank all of you for the kind words and support you have shown to myself, Mr Dwight and Ms Gallaher over the past few weeks as we have taken up the helm of leading the school. We are truly honoured to be doing what we do and to us, it is truly a vocation that we are so passionate about.

Sincerely



Ruth Whitehead
Head of School