

12-1-17



Dear Families,

A belatedly HAPPY NEW YEAR to everyone. This is traditionally the time of year when children have a sudden surge in their learning so we are always very excited about this term.

New Year resolution: as we are looking for a prompt start to learning PLEASE arrive on time for 9am. Reception classes are beginning more focused early morning learning and late arrivals will make it difficult for all of the children. Doors close at 9.10 but if you are arriving at that time you are already late.

We had an excellent training day last Wednesday all about being BRILLIANT– looking for positive things in life that will keep us feeling happy and able to cope with the challenges life throws at us.

This will obviously help us as adults but also gives us some excellent strategies to share with the children.

There are some key messages I would like to share with you as parents... These have all been researched...

- A cuddle or hug needs to last for at least 7 seconds in order to make an emotional connection– a quick hug does not have any effect. Try a 7 second hug and see the difference (counting rather spoils the effect) and I have found it even more powerful if you smile at the same time! it really sets you up for the day!
- Look for 3 brilliant things that have happened each day– write them down for a few weeks to practise—it helps you forget the less happy events of your day.
- When arriving home after work spend at least 4 minutes quality time totally focused on the children before sharing the horrors of your day (the horrors will seem less significant and may even be forgotten)
- Don't try to dodge or shorten the bed time story but put your heart and soul into it– you (and the children) will enjoy it so much more!

Many of us at school have been putting these strategies into practise and have already noticed a difference in our energy levels and positivity...

Staff Update

Cheryl Osborne retired at the end of last term.

Nicola Delasalle is our new Assistant Headteacher who will lead on Inclusion.

She is getting to know our children, systems and routines which is keeping her very busy!

If you wish to speak to her please make an appointment.



Fatima El-Azouzi joins Lime Class as the new Teaching Assistant.

Dylan Evans joins us as a part time Teaching Assistant working in Larch Class (Fridays) and Hawthorn Class (Mondays).

Winter Weather

We have been “lucky with the weather” so far but it seems we may have some snow coming.

We do not expect to ever have to close due to weather (unless the heating breaks down). However should that happen you will receive a text. Please do not phone school to ask. The front page of the school website has our open/ closed status.

As nearly all of our children may not remember the last time it snowed here we WILL go out in it if it settles.

Please dress your children warmly with hats and wellies if you have them but pop a change of shoes/ socks in their bag... (I hope they won't be disappointed)

Primary Teacher training information event coming up locally: 1st February 2017 4.15-6.15 at Colegrave Primary School, Henniker Road E15. Places need to be booked via www.scittels.co.uk

Calendar

Half term closure Monday 13th February back to school on Monday 20th February

Easter break; Last day of school Friday 31st March– back to school Tuesday 18th April (Please note the Easter weekend is right at the end of the break)

Half term closure Monday 29th May– back to school Monday 5th June

Staff training day Monday 26th June

Last day Thursday 20th July BACK TO SCHOOL WEDNESDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER 2017

Have a good weekend Sarah & Staff

