



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you so much to all Parents who managed to come to school this week to meet our class teachers. Thank you for the positive feedback from so many of you also from the teachers. Thank you so much for your support with this. For those parents who didn't turn up to their appointments or didn't make appointments please make certain you do this. I cannot emphasise the importance of these discussions in supporting your children and their progress. Please just contact the class teacher to arrange these appointments. Thank you again.

Today sees the final day of this first half-term. It has been an incredibly busy few weeks and most of the children have worked exceptionally hard and we are very proud of them.

We do hope that as the coming week arrives, you are able to have a lovely few days off together, enjoy some time outside and the children return ready for a really special time leading up to Christmas!

After the week off, the staff have a training day on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October and so the children must not attend on that day. The first day of the new half term for the children is Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October at 8.30am. We look forward to seeing the children then. Please may I remind parents that from Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November ALL children **MUST be collected at 3pm on Fridays.** As we previously told you, there will be no adult supervision available after this time on a Friday when school finishes early. Thank you so much for your co-operation with this.

### **Here is what is happening across the school, after half term**

#### **Nursery News**

In Nursery after half term we will be starting to think about and explaining the school values.

We will be choosing one child each week who in some way has been demonstrating the school values. The child who is chosen will get to take our special bears home over the weekend. To celebrate Halloween we will be reading some 'scary stories.' We will be making a pumpkin lantern and painting pumpkins.

#### **News from Reception**

The children have settled in really well this half term. They have really enjoyed talking about themselves and learning The Shopping Basket. Next half term we are moving onto look at The Three Billy Goats Gruff and The Gingerbread Man, it would be great if you could look for these books in the library over half term! We will also be looking at numbers within 10, please continue to find these numbers in the environment and start counting different items such as the plates at dinner time. Have a lovely half term.

#### **Year 1**

After half term we will be learning about shape in maths. Most of the children already have a fairly good understanding of 2D shapes so we will now be moving on to look at 3D shapes and their properties. Over the holidays you could help by pointing out shapes like cubes, spheres, cones and cuboids in the environment. We'll also be learning our number bonds to 20.

Our topic will be 'Fire & Light'. As part of this we'll be writing about bonfire night and producing information texts about it.

#### **Year 2**

Firstly, we would like to say thank you to those parents who came to see us this week for parents evening. It was lovely to spend time discussing how well the children are doing with their learning with you all. We would also like to say thank you to those of you who came

and built a castle with your child on Wednesday. The children all had a brilliant afternoon and enjoyed sharing their learning with you. After half term our topic will be 'Mythical Creatures'.

Try to do some research with your child about different mythical creatures over the holiday. They could watch films, paint pictures or make models.

### **Year 3**

This week Year 3 have had a great week completing their Stone Age instruction writing and art. We particularly enjoyed painting our Stone Age pots and writing our inventive sets of instructions on how to care for Stone Age animals.

Our new topic after half term is earthquakes and volcanoes. We will be researching famous volcanoes, why volcanoes erupt and why earthquakes happen.

In Maths our new unit will be graphs and in Literacy we will be writing a narrative about what it would be like to have lived through an earthquake.

We have been extremely impressed with Year 3's learning this half term and we hope you all have a wonderful and restful break!

### **Year 4**

What a fantastic half-term it has been! The children have settled well into their new Year group and have produced some outstanding work!

The first week back after half term we will be:

- 1) Multiplying and dividing large numbers.
- 2) Describing a Victorian setting

Our topic is now moving away from Ancient Egypt on to 'All about Charles Dickens'.

Over the course of the next half term we will be exploring different novels created by Dickens,

re-enacting some famous Dickens moments and visiting his birth place.

Please take time over the half term to speak with your children about Charles Dickens and work with them to create a project linked to the man himself.

Thank you for the support that you have given us and your children over this first half term, have a wonderful break and we look forward to seeing you on 31<sup>st</sup> October.

### **Year 5**

Thank you to all parents who attended parents' evening this week. It has been lovely to meet with you all and to discuss your child's progress and attainment.

Unfortunately Miss Page was unwell and so unable to meet with some of her parents. These meetings will be re-arranged during the first week back after half-term with details to follow.

After half term, our topic will be Ancient Egypt. We are looking forward to investigating different aspects of Egyptian culture and using this as a stimulus for some fantastic writing.

In maths, after half term, we will be learning about multiplication of 3 and 4 digit numbers by 2 digit numbers. It would be helpful if your children could practice their times-tables with you over the holiday.

In science, we will be continuing with our topic about light and will be starting to investigate reflection and refraction of light.

### **Year 6**

The first group of children have just visited Portsmouth Crown Court. It was a thoroughly worthwhile visit as the group saw for themselves how the justice system works. No longer will they end a story with the words 'and the police threw him in jail' as they now know they deserve a fair trial first! The comments made by the court staff were very complimentary.

They praised the excellent behaviour and the quality of the questions they asked.

After half term we will move on to toys, gizmos and gadgets. In the lead up to Christmas we will look at the role of technology in toys as the latest must have gifts land in the high street shops.

We will also have a go at designing our own and writing about them! We would be very grateful if you could start saving adverts from newspapers and magazines if they are toy or gadget related.

Have a lovely half term, you have earned it!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. Waelend", with a decorative flourish underneath.

**Miss J. Waelend**  
**Executive Principal**