

# The Flying Newt



No:01 Week ending 07.09.18

**Dear Parents/Carers, Children, Staff and Governors,**

Welcome back one and all and a special welcome to the new families who have joined us in Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and Year 2). I do love the return to school and I couldn't wait to come back and was so cheered by the positive responses by children as they came through the gates! The beautiful weather during the Summer hols was such an enabler and has also lifted spirits. Hold onto that warm and happy feeling as the weather starts to become a little Autumnal.

It's been a rewarding week: Staff enjoyed 2 days of training with some time to set up classroom/work environments ready for children. We revisited our school Vision and Values including how we as a staff team work together in a harmonious and positive way which is essential for our whole school community and teaching staff joined colleagues from various schools for some inspirational training hosted by Collis.

The start of a new school year brings renewed hopes, aspirations, expectations and of course, a sharp focus on learning with new chances and new opportunities for us all to be the best version of ourselves every day.

As a school we will have a continuing focus on ensuring that children experience learning that will stretch them with activities that are not too hard and not too easy but 'just right' in order to help them grow and flourish as learners. For children in **Early Years'** (Nursery and Reception), we will ensure that provision is inspiring and stimulating learners and ensuring that we have challenge for all. **Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and Year 2) learners** will be focusing on real life contexts for problem solving, handwriting, accurate spelling of high frequency words with levels of spelling commensurate with their reading development and adjusting teaching upwards so that learners are given even more opportunities to work at a greater depth in Maths and English. **For all children**, we will continue to focus on each individual and their learning journey looking to see what and how children can improve along with the progress that each child is making. However, I must stress that we have great outcomes for learners in all sorts of ways so what we are doing are tweaks and minor adjustments. **We will be building on previous successes!** 😊

To help parents/carers and children with this, we will be **tweaking our learning info** which we share with you. **Every week in the newsletter, each year group will preview 1-2 things that children will be working on the following week.** This will give families time to talk about that area, to do a little exploration...to do some 'pre-learning'. This is for incidental learning not a whole scale homework project so please do not get carried away! There will be a dedicated section in the newsletter for the **'Preview'** so please be sure to take a look. In addition, the topic plans for each year group will go out before the half term ie before the topic gets going so that families will have time to chat, explore and do a little pre-learning. **We're doing this to help children to be better prepared for their learning and to give them a bit of a leg-up to get them going.** Please keep the scale of this in proportion...just chat with your child about what is coming up and connect that to what they are experiencing at home. We don't need anything extravagant coming in!

Staff will also be **routinely emphasising the following** with children so it would be beneficial if you can reinforce the vocabulary and sentiments at home: **giving, receiving and using feedback, attempts/another go, improving, progress, it's OK to make mistakes (learn from them) and ask for help, building resilience, 'let's see what you've learned so far'.**

We have enjoyed such a positive start to the school year with children settling well into the structure and routines of school life. What a delight and how fortunate we are. We have had lots of smiles, beautiful manners, smart looking children with positive attitudes to school life, all of which make a massive impact on everybody thriving. **Children have come up to their new school groups very well prepared for their learning: well done to them, their previous class staff and of course parents/carers. Thank you: it makes a huge difference as children start their new year groups.**

This week and next, KS1 (Years 1 and 2) have the run of the school other than those children who have joined Newts sessional care. Year 1 have stepped up into their role of being the shining examples for the soon to arrive Reception children and Year 2 are stepping up to be the shining examples for the whole school! **Tip top behaviour – learning behaviours as well as manners and appropriate behaviour – is expected from all children.** Great behaviour is a very important aspect of being in KS1 so please reinforce this at home as this will help complement our high expectations at school. **Please be aware that we expect children to use lovely manners, Kind Words and Kind Actions and show respect to all. Thank you for reinforcing this.**

**We use Restorative Practises at our school for positive behaviour management.** This was introduced last year and we saw a positive impact on children empowered to step forward and deal with incidents as well as an improvement in low level behaviour. Please remind your child that we use Kind Words and Kind Actions and expect that from all without exception. The same is true of all adults. Thank you.

Our **school environment is important** in supporting learners and learning: organised, clean, tidy and calm. To support this, you will notice when you come in that all display boards are now covered in **hessian fabric**. We have taken away the boards of many colours and are keeping the school palette in neutral colours. This will help to reduce the sensory overload that some experience, the hessian is more eco over time and the neutral colours will enhance the children's displayed work. Nursery trialled the hessian last year and fed back favourable results.

**For Key Stage 1, reading books go home today and library starts next week ☺** Please remember to return your child's Summer holiday target sheet with all the tasks which they achieved ticked off and please remember to gather information for your child's new class name. Thank you.

We look forward to welcoming our new Reception and Nursery families from 17<sup>th</sup> September onwards. Starting school is very exciting! Our school site and Normansfield Avenue will also become much busier in a couple of weeks so **please remember to drop off and pick up swiftly**. In the mornings, the main gates get very busy so please keep them clear of buggies and bikes and keep the main thoroughfare clear. Year 2 parents/carers please come right onto the site for collection. No dogs are allowed on site. No cycling/scooting on site either – we want everyone to be safe. Thank you. If you are late dropping off or picking up, you must enter via the main school door and check-in at the school office.

Please do not call children back to say goodbye through the black Year 2 gates. Children are then out of easy sight of school adults plus some children are getting rather unsettled by this. Likewise, Year 1 parents/carers, please do not stand outside the classrooms to check on your children. This is also unsettling for classes. Thank you! You also know that I will gently chase you away!!

The full **School Community Diary Dates** for the year will be out shortly. Dates for the term are below. Please make a note of the events which impact on you as we avoid sending out reminders. We do our best not to make any changes but if we do, we will endeavour to give you as much notice as possible.

**To remind you, the following are our key leaders are:**

Miss Claire Sugrue: KS1 Assistant Headteacher

Mrs Jane Tauwhare: EY Assistant Headteacher

Mrs Marita Cunniffe: Assistant Head + Inclusion Leader + Designated Safeguarding Lead

Miss Danielle Gooding: Reception Team Leader

Myself: Heidi Johnson Paul, Headteacher + Deputy Safeguarding Lead

We were **really pleased to host Mr Josh Chamberlin – new Headteacher at St John's** – for a visit today. He visited all of the KS1 classes and had a chat with the children and staff. He and I also had a positive chat about making the strengths of our two schools even stronger and strengthening partnership work between our two schools. We look forward to welcoming Mr Chamberlin back and hope to be hosting a 'meet and greet' this term. The HWINS Team wish all of the SJB community well for the new year especially our ex-year 2 families ☺

As you know, this is my last term before I step down as Headteacher. As you would expect, it's business as usual here! Governors will continue to keep you up to date with the recruitment process.

Finally but very importantly, we are looking to **open up the Wilderness Café next Thursday**. Please read the information below. HUGE thanks to our site manager Don for getting this project off the ground and to Anna Buset (Estella Yr 2 and Heidi N) for getting the kettle on!

I know the first couple of weeks back to school can be a shock to the system so do enjoy the weekend ☺

Warmest wishes, HJP

Heidi Johnson Paul, Headteacher

### Things That Fly Class Names 2018 - 2019

| Name        | Class     | Previously              | Teacher                                |
|-------------|-----------|-------------------------|--|
| Robin       | Nursery   | New Intake              | Mrs Jane Tauwhare with Mrs Zoe Tomkins |
| Parrot      | Reception | New Intake + Robins     | Miss Lauren Stuart                     |
| Owl         | Reception | New Intake + Robins     | Miss Danielle Gooding                  |
| Blackbird   | Reception | New Intake + Robins     | Miss Raechelle Donovan                 |
| Dragon      | Year 1    | Reception classes mixed | Miss Jennifer Griggs                   |
| Pegasus     | Year 1    | Reception classes mixed | Mrs Jillian Blogg                      |
| Hummingbird | Year 2    | Year 1 classes mixed    | Miss Claire Sugrue                     |
| Peacock     | Year 2    | Year 1 classes mixed    | Miss Lucy Miller & Miss Nav Uppal      |

#### Preview Learning: Coming up next week...

**Year 1:** Human (man-made) eg: road, post box, house and physical (natural) eg tree, river, flower features in the environment

**Year 2:** Florence Nightingale and comparing hospitals in the past to hospitals now; in Maths children will be revising our number bonds and using our knowledge of tens and ones to add and subtract

- **Spellings will be sent home next Friday**

#### School Lunches

Just to remind you that school meals continue to be free for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children. All children have the provided school lunch in line with our school policy. The lunches are cooked from scratch on the school premises, are tasty, free and nutritionally balanced ☺

#### School Uniform, Looking Great for School and PE Kits

Thank you: full school uniform + school shoes (NO TRAINERS), PE kits + plimsolls are required.

If your child has hair long enough to be tied back, please may you do so. This helps keep down the spread of headlice and keeps hair out of children's faces so that they can fully engage in the learning. **No nail varnish, tattoo transfers, bracelets or other jewellery please. Children who do have pierced ears may only wear studs.**

Please ensure that **school book bags only** have your child's name tag on the outside and **no key rings**. Many thanks.

## **Year 2 Welcomers for Reception Children**

Year 2 – all children though at different times – will be wearing a red HWINS sash and welcoming in our new Reception children. Cheery smiles, KW+KA will be most welcome by our new children and their families.

## **Eco and School Council: for Year 1 and Year 2**

This starts next week. All children in KS1 are welcome! It's super leadership opportunity for children. As we are short staffed and after the joint project the children did last term on the Chillax Space, we are merging Eco and School Council.

## **Eco+ School Council: Wednesday after afternoon playtime in the library**

### **Helpers' Meetings**

**Existing Helpers:** We look forward to welcoming you back! Please remember that you must attend the refresher meeting which includes aspects of Safeguarding BEFORE you come back in to help.

**New Helpers:** We look forward to welcoming you! You must attend a New Helpers' Meeting and complete the appropriate paper work BEFORE coming in to help.

### **School Clubs**

All school clubs start next week. If you wish to book a place for your child please contact the clubs directly. Club information can be found on our website or you can pick up a leaflet from the school office.

## **Wilderness Cafe - soft launch next week... but can you help?**

The cafe is very nearly ready so we'd like to invite you to come and see it and try the coffee for yourselves!

Come and see what we have to offer this MONDAY afternoon at pick up time. We will be opening the doors from 3.00pm and welcome you all to have a look and a taste.

Now that we are so close to opening we need just a little bit more help to make sure it's a huge success...

- \* Can you sew? Could you cover some cushions with some material that has been donated?
- \* Do you want to help staff the Cafe?
- \* Could you spare a morning or afternoon to open the cafe and help run it?
- \* We'd love more bakers to donate bakes, once a month should be enough.

Let's make this a brilliant success - this is for you, the parents and carers and for our whole community; soon you will be sipping lattes and catching up with your friends and they will even be Wi-Fi and a sunny spot to sit in!

Contact Anna Buset for any enquiries or offers of help! [annabuset@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:annabuset@hotmail.co.uk)

Thank you  
The Wilderness Cafe team

## **SMSA Vacancy**

SMSA required to join the lunchtime team.

Start date: 24<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Hours: 11:35am – 1:00pm

Days: Monday to Friday term time only (38 weeks per year)

Salary: £3,243.70.

Application Closing Date: 9am Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Interview Date: Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Further details including full job description and how to apply can be found on e-teach.

[www.eteach.com/job/midday-supervisor-1000899?lang=en-GB&frmsrh=Y](http://www.eteach.com/job/midday-supervisor-1000899?lang=en-GB&frmsrh=Y)

## Community Diary Dates week beginning 10 September 2018

| Week commencing   | Date         | Welcome & Curriculum Information: all information is available on the school website.  |
|-------------------|--------------|--|
| 03 September 2018 | Monday 3     | Inset Day Team Building and Housekeeping– Children do not attend school today  |
|                   | Tuesday 4    | Inset Day Team Building and Housekeeping– Children do not attend school today  |
|                   | Wednesday 5  | Children return to school – Year 1 & 2   |
|                   | Thursday 6   |  |
|                   | Friday 7     | Reception & Nursery Staff doing home visits  |
| 10 September 2018 | Monday 10    | Reception & Nursery Staff doing home visits  |
|                   |              | School clubs start this week   |
|                   | Tuesday 11   | Reception & Nursery Staff doing home visits  |
|                   | Wednesday 12 | Reception & Nursery Staff doing home visits  |
|                   | Thursday 13  | Reception & Nursery Staff doing home visits  |
|                   | Friday 14    |  |
| 17 September 2018 | Monday 17    | Reception & Nursery Children – phased entry  |
|                   | Tuesday 18   | Reception & Nursery Children – phased entry  |
|                   | Wednesday 19 | Reception & Nursery Children – all in school   |
|                   |              | Year 2 school trip to Painshill Park   |
|                   |              | 3:30pm-4:00pm - Y1 & Y2 meet the Teacher and Class Routines TBC  |
|                   | Thursday 20  | Existing Helpers' Meeting 8:30am & 3:20pm  |
|                   | Friday 21    | Existing Helpers' Meeting 8:30am & 3:20pm  |
|                   |              | Super Magic Day: Class theme - Things that Fly. Children are to wear school uniform  |
| 24 September 2018 | Monday 24    | Reception Children become full time - 9:00am-3:15pm  |
|                   | Tuesday 25   | Tidy-up Tuesday: Eco Grounds Day.Sweep up, plant up, tidy-up. Parent volunteers welcome  |
|                   | Wednesday 26 |  |
|                   | Thursday 27  |  |
|                   | Friday 28    | 8:30am & 3:20pm New Helpers' Meeting   |
|                   |              | Reception parents/carers 'Meet the Teacher + Learning Information' 9-9:30am or 3:30pm-4:00pm, school hall (please come to one meeting only)  |
|                   |              | Family Tapestries out  |
| 01 October 2018   | Monday 1     |  |
|                   | Tuesday 2    | Individual School Photographs for Nursery and Reception children (photos will be taken with non-school siblings before school from 8:00am, please call the school office to book your non-school sibling appointment ) |
|                   | Wednesday 3  | 9.15am Open Day  |
|                   | Thursday 4   | Individual School Photographs for Yr1 & Yr2 children (photos will be taken with non-school siblings before school from 8:00am, please call the school office to book your non-school sibling appointment )             |
|                   | Friday 5     | Super Magic Day: Family Tapestries – please return completed. Children to wear school uniform  |
| 08 October 2018   | Monday 8     | Consultations appointments are released  |
|                   |              | School Meal taster session 3:15pm  |
|                   | Tuesday 9    |  |
|                   | Wednesday 10 | 8.30am - New Helpers' Meeting  |
|                   | Thursday 11  | 3.30pm Reading workshop for all helpers  |
|                   | Friday 12    |  |
| 15 October 2018   | Monday 15    | 3:40pm-7:00pm - Parent/carer Consultations, Nursery, Rec, Yr1 & Yr2  |
|                   | Tuesday 16   | 3:40pm-7:00pm - Parent/carer Consultations, Nursery, Rec, Yr1 & Yr2  |
|                   | Wednesday 17 | 9:10am-11:20am & 1:00pm-3:00pm - Nursery Consultations   |

|                 |             |  |
|-----------------|-------------|--|
|                 | Thursday 18 |  |
|                 | Friday 19   | Whole school Harvest Celebration Assembly – theme: Sharing - children only |
| 22 October 2018 |             | <b>Monday 22 – Friday 26 Half Term</b>                                     |