

# September and October Newsletter (Autumn 1)

Welcome back to another school year! I hope you all enjoyed your summer break and took some time to relax and have fun. A very special welcome to all the new parents and children who have joined us this term.

We are pleased to welcome some new staff this September. Miss Ringrose has joined the EYFS team as a full time TA, Mrs Howell is our new SENCo and Mrs Chittenden is covering in Year 2.

We are all looking forward to a positive, busy and exciting year. We are expecting an Ofsted inspection this academic year, have lots of new initiatives planned to develop communication, OPAL to improve lunchtime provision outside, a new P.E scheme to engage the children and a reading programme which has proved immensely successful in improving reading and comprehension when we trialled it last year.



## Before and After School Club

Please do contact the office if you are interested in places either in the morning, after school or both. We have maintained the cost of both clubs and can offer wrap around child care for £12 a day. Details are available from the office. Provision runs from 3.30 p.m until 6.00 p.m each day.



## New Class Names

You will have noticed that we have changed some of our class names this year which are all based on an endangered animal. We now have Leopards (FS2), Bonobos (Year 1) and Cheetahs (Year 6). We are keen to encourage children to think about the world that we live in and to become responsible for protecting, as much as possible, the animal kingdom as well as the environment we live in through promoting recycling, re-using and taking care to save energy by turning off lights, taps and monitors. We continue to use our recycling bins in school to sort compostable waste, plastics and paper. All households will have these new bins in 2026 so hopefully the children will be experts by then and can help you at home.



## Behaviour

We will be continuing to reward positive choices and behaviour with DOJO points and certificates, rewards and for Years 5 and 6, we will be continuing with enrichment afternoons every fortnight. We will share our school expectations with the children through assemblies and discussions. These link to our vision and values and we hope that by keeping these simple all children will be able to remember them. They are:

**Kind** - Be kind to everyone

**Respectful** - Be polite and always remember your manners

**Ambitious** - To always try our best

**Responsible** - To keep yourself, our environment and others safe around school

**Curious** - To be ready to listen and learn

**Brave** - To be brave and have a can-do attitude

The children will start each day on a green card and will be rewarded throughout the day with Dojo points and stickers. Children will be given one reminder about their behaviour if this is not acceptable and, if this continues, will be shown an amber card. This will then mean that they will stay in for a couple of minutes at

break to discuss their choices with an adult. If children are shown a red card, they will be sent straight to a member of SLT and parents will be contacted. For children sent to reflection, we will use discussion to reflect on behaviour choices to hopefully avoid the same issues in the future.

The policy is on the school website if you would like to read this in detail. It explains what we expect of children at different times of the day, lunchtime and breaks for example, and highlights when children may be shown an amber warning and what consequences we will use if children are repeatedly choosing to not follow our expectations. You can find the policy in the key information section, under the behaviour tab.

Children can also be sent to me for making me 'as proud as a peacock.' The children will have a sticker, a small prize and then a treat such as an extra playtime or fun session in the hall.

Classes can also win a peacock for a week for having the highest attendance. I am also looking for the tidiest classroom, the most organised cloakroom, the smartest line and best behaviour. Rewards and treats for the winning classes!



### **Communication**

Please do ensure that you have signed up for Parent Pay and DOJO. We send out a huge amount of information using both and it is vitally important you read the messages and use these to ensure you are aware of dates and any special requests. We do not take any cash payments in the office so all lunches, trips and special events (excluding any small donations for some special events) have to be paid for online. If you have any issues with setting up your account, please give the office a call. Could I also encourage you to check both platforms as we send information using each one - normally letters are sent on Parent Pay and quick messages / updates on Dojo. We are also going to use the calendar reminder function on Dojo this year to help remind you of events, but please do check the dates section carefully and set yourself a reminder on your phone if necessary.



### **Makaton**

Over the summer a number of staff attended a Makaton training course to develop skills in communication. We will be sharing some basic signs each week with the children and yourselves if you would like to use these at home. Makaton is different to British Sign Language as it requires the user to say a phrase or sentence but which is then supported by simple signs and actions. This can be helpful to use not only with children who are struggling with speech development but also can help an individual who is upset or agitated. We hope you will enjoy practising and using some of the signs at home.



### **Meet the teacher and Parents' Evenings**

We will be holding an informal 'meet the teacher' evening on the 24<sup>th</sup> September. This is an opportunity for you to say hello, perhaps put a name to a face and see your child's classroom. Children are welcome to attend and they will be able to show you some of their work. The event will be held from 3.45 to 4.45 p.m. There will be a formal parents' evening in November, following assessment week, where staff can discuss your child's progress in more detail.



## Macmillan Coffee Morning / Parent Drop in

On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September we will be holding an informal coffee morning. All members of the Senior Leadership Team (Mrs Dainty, Mr Green, Mr Bunhejee, Miss Hughes, Mrs Wenham, Mrs Chibbaro and Mrs Howell) will be present for a chat and to provide any information you may need and to listen to any suggestions you may have. It would be great if you could attend, even for half an hour, to have a drink, a piece of cake and a chat. The event will run from 9.00 until 10.15 a.m. If you could bring a donation of a cake, that would be marvellous and maybe some change (or a note!) to help us raise funds for this amazing charity.



## Attendance

We track attendance weekly and monthly for all pupils. Holidays taken in term time will be reported to DCC who may issue a penalty notice accordingly. I have a legal duty to ensure all pupils are present in school and therefore we will continue to monitor and contact you via house visits, phone calls and messages if we are concerned about an absence. Please do let the office know about any illness resulting in an absence as soon as possible so that we can update all attendance registers appropriately. Staff will visit pupil's homes as part of our safeguarding duties if we are concerned about a child's absence or if we have reason to believe you have taken your children on holiday.

Information from DCC on booking or taking holidays in term time is very clear (see below).

### ▪ What does the law say regarding holidays in term-time?

***The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 makes it clear that the headteacher should not grant approval for any leave of absence during term-time, including holidays, unless there are exceptional circumstances.***

***Parents are not entitled to take their children on holiday in term-time. Planned absence can only be taken with the prior written approval of the headteacher. Each case will be considered on its own merits and the decision of the headteacher is final.***

***If a request for leave is denied and the pupil is absent for 5 days or more then the school is expected to refer the case to the local authority who will issue a penalty notice with no requirement for a formal warning to be issued. Penalty notices can also be issued where a pupil is absent for repeated incidents of unauthorised leave in term time but fall below the 5-day threshold.***



## Dates for your diaries

### Events this term

10 <sup>th</sup> September	Visit from Friesland to talk to Year 6 pupils
16 <sup>th</sup> September	WOW day for Year 1
19 <sup>th</sup> September	WOW days for Years 2 and 5
24 <sup>th</sup> September	WOW day for Year 3
25 <sup>th</sup> September	Macmillan Coffee Morning
26 <sup>th</sup> September	European Languages Day
29 <sup>th</sup> September to 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Padley Harvest Collection
2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Poetry Day
10 <sup>th</sup> October	Hello Yellow Day
24 <sup>th</sup> October	Longmoor Loves Reading non-uniform day

24 <sup>th</sup> October	Lat day of term
3 <sup>rd</sup> November	INSET DAY - school closed to children
4 <sup>th</sup> November	Autumn 2 term begins - children back in school
6 <sup>th</sup> November	Outdoor Learning Day
w/b 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Assessment Week
w/b 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-Bullying Week
10 <sup>th</sup> November	Odd sock day
12 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 6 Residential
14 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need
20 <sup>th</sup> November	Individual and sibling photos
25 <sup>th</sup> November	4.00 - 7.00 p.m - Parents Evening
27 <sup>th</sup> November	4.00 - 7.00 p.m - Parents Evening
8 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Afternoon and Evening performance of Christmas Play
10 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS Morning Performance of Christmas Play
12 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day
12 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Concert at St Johns
w/b 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Parties
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term
5 <sup>th</sup> January, 2026	Spring term begins - children back in school

**Proposed / Planned dates for 2026, to give you plenty of notice.**

w/b 11 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 SATs week
w/b 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Year 4 Multiplication Check
w/b 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 Phonics Check
23 <sup>rd</sup> / 24 <sup>th</sup> / 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Transition days for Long Eaton School
24 <sup>th</sup> / 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Transition days for Friesland and Wilsthorpe
3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Sports Day
8 <sup>th</sup> - 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 4 Residential
16 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 afternoon and evening performance of end of year play
22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Year 6 party
23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Last day of term

### **INSET Days**

3 <sup>rd</sup> November, 2025
27 <sup>th</sup> March, 2026
1 <sup>st</sup> June, 2026

Thank you for your continued support. *Mrs Dainty*