



DIARY DATES

September 2019

Mon 23rd

Living Eggs coming into Year 1

Wed 25th

National Fitness Day

Thurs 26th

Individual School Photographs

Fri 27th

FOSG Tea and Cakes

October 2019

Tues 1st

Harvest Festival Service at St Peters Church

Fri 3rd

FOSG Quiz Night

Fri 4th

Parent Forum 08:45

Fri 4th

FOSG Quiz Night

Tues 8th

FOSG Coin Weigh In

Thurs 10th

Big Soup Share

Thurs 17th

Mr Miller PE Coaching KS1

Fri 18th

FoSG Film Night

Tues 22nd

Parents Evening

Thurs 24th

Parents Evening

20th September 2019

Welcome

Welcome back to the new school year. I have been delighted to meet the new Nursery in class and to introduce all the Reception children to the whole school. Also, to meet some new faces in Key Stage One. All new children were warmly welcomed to Swing Gate in assembly.

As I have walked around the school it has been great to see the children beginning to settle in the school routine and that they are happy, active and inspired in their learning.

Uniform

It is lovely to see the whole school so smart in their uniforms. I have asked the school staff to make sure that all children are coming into school in the appropriate uniform. The full list is on the Website.

The weather continues to be warm, so please ensure that children come into school with their Swing Gate hats and water bottles.

Meet the Teacher

Thank you to all those who came to 'Meet the teacher', the teachers were pleased to meet so many of you. They are really getting to know your children well.

Parking

I have confirmed that parking is available to Swing Gate parents and carers in the car park of the Old Mill Pub. The new manager has now taken over and has agreed to support the school by helping parents find safe places to park. A 'no parking' sign was previously erected by the interim manager, however this has been taken down. We hope that many of you will be able to make use of this facility.

A local Police Officer visited the school at pick up time today to view the parking and spoke to a couple of parents. The PSCO has said that they too will be looking at parking at Swing Gate. Please park with consideration to our neighbours and do not block drive ways. Safety of our children is of the upmost importance and I hope that you will support the school with this.

Prospective Parent Visits

The School will be having Open Days for children starting Reception in autumn 2020. The Open Days are:

Wed 9th October at 14:00

Tues 22nd October at 09:30

Fri 8th November at 09:30

Mon 25th November at 14:00

Wed 11th December at 09:30

Thurs 9th January at 09:30.

Please could you also let any friends or family that are looking for a Reception place know these dates, as I would be very happy to show them around our fantastic school.



PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

'Wherever you go, no matter what the weather, always bring your own sunshine.'

Anthony D'Angelo, writer

Staff News

I am pleased to confirm new members of staff. Mrs Holmes will be working in Owls Class and Miss Beechey will be working in Squirrels Class. We also have two new members of staff that will be here for this academic year. Mrs Giles who is already in Badgers and Mrs Harwood-Jones who will be starting in Foxes on Monday. These are all in addition to the class adults.

I would also like to thank Ms Bailey and Mrs Smith for their continued support in the Office.

We are also fortunate to have a number of regular volunteers that are helping in the classes. Children might mention that there are new adults in class, but they too are additional to the regular class adults.

Reminders

The new price for Little Deers 30-hour Nursery care and After School Club and Swing Gate Breakfast Club are all £6.20 per hour.

Children are to have one keyring on their book bags as more than one makes it difficult for the book bags to fit in the school trays/boxes. Teachers have been taking off additional ones and popping them in their book bags.

The children should have a Swing Gate School book bag, which too fits in their draw. Please do not send your child in with a back pack.

Curriculum

We are delighted to announce that we will be doing a Talk for Writing project with Westfield school. The project will be launched in November and is for two years. The aim is to further develop the extensive use of classroom **talk** to help children to improve their **writing** in a range of text genres. It is based on a recognition of what successful writers do. More details to follow soon...

Requests

We are looking to further enhance the lunchtime provision and outdoor environment. We are requesting donations of:

- old colouring books
- unwanted pens and pencils
- Duplo style building blocks
- dressing up clothes.

Lettings

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that the school hall is available for letting purposes some evenings and at weekends. Please contact the School Office for more details.

Castles Day

The Year 2 children and adults really enjoyed their trip to Berkhamsted Castle today. It was so lovely to see them as knights, dragons, lords, princesses, servants and surfs etc...

The banquet in the afternoon was a real delight and success!

Francesca Gallagher (Mrs)
Headteacher