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Newsletter Term 1, Week 1

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome

Welcome to the start of a new school year. May I extend a very special welcome to families who are new to Trinity? We hope you settle in quickly to being part of the Trinity family.

Calendar 2015-16

Today we have issued a paper copy of the '**School Calendar 2015-16**'. This is a folded booklet and has been issued on the basis of one per family. If you have more than one child at school it has been given to the eldest child. Spare copies can be obtained from the school office. This will be the only occasion we issue a 'hard copy'. If and when the calendar is amended and updated we will re-issue it via email. The calendar has all the dates that we know at this point in the year. A copy will be available in PDF format on the website;

<http://trinityceprimaryschool.co.uk/virtual-office/calendar/>

Each event will also appear on the website calendar.

Please take some time to look at the calendar. There is at least one occasion this Term when the Parents and Carers of children in each class have been invited in. It would be lovely to see lots of you on these occasions.

Termly Overviews

The class teachers have been working hard to plan fun, exciting, engaging and challenging learning opportunities. Next week, we will issue an overview for each class which identifies what the children will be learning in their topics. As you are aware, we have a new curriculum and assessment framework to work with. Included in the overviews will be more specific information relating to reading, spelling, homework, PE days etc.

Timetable change

From the start of this year we have slightly altered our timetable. This **does not** change the start or end of the day, or the lunchtime. Morning playtime is now at 10.15-10.30am and service will be at 3.00pm. The main reason for the change is to accommodate a session at the start of the day for 'Reflection and Feedback' from 8.55-9.15am. This is a time during the day when we are able to utilise the capacity of four teaching assistants to provide extra support across the school. We believe it will have a positive impact on children's learning and progress by providing;

- opportunities for pre-tutoring/ over-learning sessions with the teacher or teaching assistants,
- time for children to respond to marking comments, make corrections and improve work,
- a chance to reflect on prior learning before taking the next step on the learning journey.



Assessment Workshop

At the end of last year we ran an 'Assessment Workshop'. This was an opportunity for parents and carers to hear about the changes to the new curriculum for primary schools and the way forward with assessment. We will be running the workshop again on **Monday 28th September 2015 at 6.00pm**. It will be very useful as it will help parents and carers make sense of the information teachers will share with you regarding children's attainment and progress.

[NB This date does not yet appear on the School Calendar]

Clubs

We hope to issue a 'Clubs letter' early next week with a view to teacher/ staff run clubs starting in the week beginning 14th September. There will not be teacher/ staff run clubs in the same week as Parents' evenings.

End of day

From Wednesday 2nd September 2015 we have changed our end of day procedure;

- All classes will be dismissed from the main playground at 3.30pm.
- Willow* and Ash classes will come out of the first door to the playground.
- Elm, Oak and Beech classes will come out of the second door to the playground.

*Reception children in Willow class will be dismissed from the wooden gate at the side of the building during the induction period.

Please can I ask that Parents and Carers utilise all the space in the playground and try to stand in a position where you can be easily observed? It is very difficult for staff to identify the correct adult if their view is obstructed by the small trees or if the person they are looking for is stood near to the fence adjacent to the driveway. In order to dismiss the children smoothly and quickly, whilst ensuring their safety we would like to request;

- For people picking up children in Willow and Ash, please stand between the small trees and the building.
- For people picking up children from Elm, Oak and Beech please stand well into the main area of the playground, between the sandpit and the bridge.

Vision and Values

On the INSET Day on Monday 1st September staff and Governors worked together to finalise our new school vision statement and to review our core values. You will know from our SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) Report in June 2015 that one of our targets was to; *'Review the school's core set of Christian values and ensure these are linked explicitly to biblical teaching in order to set them in their Christian context'*.

Our next step is to talk to the children and gather their views before finally agreeing our core values going forward.

Dropping-off point

If you are using the dropping off point in the morning between 8.45 and 8.55am please do not leave your vehicle unattended. This is purely for dropping off and not for parking.

Car park

The car park is for staff and visitors vehicles only. The car park should not be used by parents unless they require the use of the disabled parking bay.

I hope that by issuing the 'School Calendar 2015-16', updating the website calendar and giving as much notice as possible for events we are responding to the feedback with regards to communication. Please contact the office if you need to discuss anything.

Regards

C. Hutton