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## Newsletter 1– Term 1 2017-18

### Value focus: Friendship

**5<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the start of a new academic year. We are very pleased to have 27 new pupils joining us today; 20 in Reception and 7 in other year groups. On behalf of the Trinity school community a very warm welcome to all of you.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your thoughts, prayers, cards and messages of support throughout a very difficult period. It is comforting to have such warmth and compassion shown by so many people in so many different ways. My daughters and I have spent lots of time together over the summer and are adjusting to our 'new normal' with the support from our family and friends.

I am very grateful to the Trinity Team of staff and governors who pulled together towards the end of the year in my absence. We are fortunate as a school to have such a group of dedicated people.

I believe that this is an exciting time at Trinity. We have had two great INSET days of team building and planning, with first aid training for some staff, and have identified our priorities for the year ahead. Today in service we have spoken about values and expectations. The children know that they are expected to demonstrate our core values of **courage, friendship, respect, love** and **kindness** in all aspects of school life. We have reminded them that we have high expectations in terms of behaviour, manners, conduct, dress, attitudes to learning and presentation of work. All adults at school have the same level of expectation and all adults will give rewards and impose sanctions in the same way.

The class teachers will correspond shortly with topic overviews, homework, PE days and other class specific information.

Looking forward to a great year!

Regards, C. Hutton

### **Staffing update**

After bidding farewell to Mr Powell, Mrs Morgan and Mrs Jackson at the end of the summer term, we now have four new members of staff: Miss Prichard will be Deputy Head and Oak Class teacher; Mrs Gadsby will be Ash class teacher; Miss Gammie and Miss Snellgrove will be teaching assistants and lunchbreak supervisors. We also have a new kitchen assistant called Mrs Burgess.

There will be some changes to the roles and working patterns of existing staff: Mrs Penney will work mornings only; Mrs Warner will be the teaching assistant in Ash class every morning; Mrs McLaughlin will be the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO). Wednesday mornings will be her dedicated SEN leadership time.

<b>Class</b>	<b>Teacher(s)</b>
Willow	Miss Godwin
Ash	Mrs Gadsby (Mon-Wed*) & Mrs McLaughlin (Wed*-Fri) [*Mrs Gadsby Wed am and alternate Wed pm, Mrs McLaughlin alternate Weds pm]
Elm	Mrs Watts (Mon-Thu) & Mrs Heath (Fri)
Oak	Miss Prichard (Mon-Wed & Fri) & Mrs Heath (Thu)
Beech	Mr Shiles

## **Parent Survey**

In July 2017 we sent out Parent Surveys to gather your views on a range of topics. Many thanks to those of you who took the time to complete one. We had 36 respondents in total which represents about a third of the families within school.

The large proportion of respondents selected either 'Strongly agree' or 'Agree' to most questions, which is very encouraging, whilst the additional information provided on some surveys has been very useful in helping us identify our priorities for the year ahead. The main points raised are;

- **Homework**- inconsistencies in frequency, volume and expectation, method of communication of homework not always effective, description of tasks/ activities need to be clearer/ more explicit, website should be used more, parents need more guidance about how to help and support their child.
- **Website**- has improved, needs further work/ updating to become the 'go to' place for information, calendar lay out not user friendly, some devices cannot display pages effectively.
- **Clubs**- less variety of clubs on offer, most are sports clubs.
- **Premises**- school site untidy, children's toilets can be 'a bit smelly'.
- **Healthy eating**- school should review its policy.

We will be working hard to address these points, and other aspects identified through self-evaluation, in our School Development Plan.

## **Homework**

The teachers are developing a new approach to homework which will be communicated to you shortly. This includes some changes to the way we teach and test spelling.

## **Presentation of work**

We have revisited our policy on how work is set out in books and have made some minor adjustments to our marking policy. The quality of the work in children's books, and how they respond to marking, reflect the children's attitude to learning.

## **Snacks**

Toast (10p) and fruit juice (30p) is available at morning break. Children may bring in a piece of fruit or a cereal bar (no nuts) from home. Items should not be taken out of lunchboxes as snacks. Children in Willow and Ash class also have a piece of fruit provided for afternoon playtime. During Term 1 the school kitchen will be selling ice-lollies towards the end of lunchtime (12.45 pm) for 20p.

Often children like to bring in a treat for their friends when it is their birthday. Whilst this is not necessary, if you choose to do this, please could you:

- ensure what you are sending in is individually wrapped,
- provide the correct number of items,
- consider a healthier option.

## **Dinner money**

Reminder- School meals cost for Key Stage 2 children is £2.10 a day and should always be paid in advance. Term 1 is 6 weeks and 4 days long therefore a school meal every day would equate to £71.40.

**Menu change**- On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2017 the kitchen will be serving fish fingers and chips (the usual Friday menu).

## **Schools Funding**

Funding for schools has been in the news a lot over the last year. Whilst we cannot control political decisions that affect how our funding is calculated, there is something we can do. We are required to complete a census return to the local authority periodically. The autumn census has a direct effect on the level of funding we receive in the following financial year. Basically our funding level is calculated based on the number of children who are **present at school on census day**. Also, it is to our advantage if there is a very high number of children having a school meal.

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2017 is the next census day.** We have negotiated a menu change (see above) to encourage more children to select school meals on that day.

Please help us to get 100% attendance and school meal uptake. Thank you.

## 2017-18 Dates for diaries

All dates below are correct at time of issue but are subject to change. When dates change, or new dates are added, these will be included in the following newsletter. To make them stand-out we will use *italics*.

### **Term 1 Dates (Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October)**

Date	Time	Class	Event
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>3-3:30pm</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Celebration Service</b>
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>All day</b>	<b>Elm/ Oak / Beech</b>	<b>Stone Age Workshop</b>
<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>School Council Elections</b>
<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September</b>	<b>1-2.30pm</b>	<b>TBC</b>	<b>Swimming at Yate Leisure Centre</b>
<b>Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>10-11:30</b>	<b>TBC</b>	<b>Swimming at Yate Leisure Centre</b>
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October</b>	<b>9:15-10</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Harvest Service</b>
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>All day</b>	<b>Willow / Ash</b>	<b>Polar Experience</b>
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>10-11:30</b>	<b>TBC</b>	<b>Swimming at Yate Leisure</b>
<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>9-12pm</b>	<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Bike-ability</b>
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>9-12pm</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Individual Photos</b>

### **Term 2 Dates (Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December)**

Date	Time	Class	Event
<b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November</b>	<b>1-3:30</b>	<b>Elm / Oak / Beech</b>	<b>Young Shakespeare - Macbeth</b>
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>2:30-6</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Parents Evening</b>
<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>4-6:30</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Parents Evening</b>
<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>10:30-11:30</b>	<b>Elm / Oak / Beech</b>	<b>Service at St. Marys Church</b>
<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>9:15-9:45</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Beech Class Service</b>
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>2-3pm</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Nativity dress rehearsal</b>
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>2-3pm</b>	<b>Willow / Ash</b>	<b>Nativity</b>
<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>2-3pm</b>	<b>Willow / Ash</b>	<b>Nativity</b>
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>12-1pm</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Christmas Lunch</b>
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>1:30-3:30</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Sing-a-long and Pantomime</b>

### **Term 3 Dates (Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February)**

Date	Time	Class	Event
<b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January</b>	<b>All day</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>INSET day – school closed</b>
<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>9:15-9:45</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Oak class service</b>

### **Term 4 Dates (Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 23<sup>th</sup> March)**

Date	Time	Class	Event
<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	<b>1-2.30pm</b>	<b>TBC</b>	<b>Swimming at Yate Leisure Centre</b>
<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>2:30-6pm</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Parents Evening</b>
<b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>10-11.30am</b>	<b>TBC</b>	<b>Swimming at Yate Leisure Centre</b>
<b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March</b>	<b>4-6:30pm</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Parents Evening</b>
<b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>10-11.30am</b>	<b>TBC</b>	<b>Swimming at Yate Leisure Centre</b>
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>9:15-9:45</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Elm class service</b>
<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March</b>	<b>9:15-9:45</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Willow class service</b>
<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	<b>1:30-3pm</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Easter Egg Hunt</b>

**Term 5 Dates (Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May)**

Date	Time	Class	Event
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	All day	-	INSET day – school closed
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	All day		SATs week

**Term 6 Dates (Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July)**

Date	Time	Class	Event
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> June – Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	-	Year 1 children	Phonics Screening
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	9:15-9:45	All	Ash class service
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> June – Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	All day	Years 5 & 6	Residential trip; Kingswood, Staffordshire
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	-	Years 3 & 4	School sleepover
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	1:30-3:30	All	Sports Day
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	1:30-3:30	All	Sports Day (Reserve date)
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	-		School Production at Sheldon
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	-	All	Reports issued

