

Dear Parents/carers,

Welcome to a new term, details of the curriculum for your child will be with you this week. Please take a look at the plans from your child's teacher and how you can support their learning. We have many special days planned to enrich their learning. We welcome Mr Mills to our school as the new Birch Class teacher. I can also advise we have recruited a new Senco, Mrs Salisbury, who will be available after half term if you wish to meet her.

Thank you to all the families who completed the Parent Survey before Christmas, the outcomes of the survey will appear on our website shortly. Here are some of the highlights and comments.

- *My child is happy at school - 92% agree*
- *My child feels safe at school - 96% agree*
- *Someone to listen if child has a problem - 96% agree*
- *School makes sure pupils are well-behaved - 88% agree*
- *School deals quickly with behaviour issues - 92% agree*
- *Good range of subjects available - 96% agree, 0% disagree*

- *Good opportunities to learn new experiences/skills outside the classroom - 100% agree*
- *My child does well at this school - 92% agree, 0% disagree*
- *Effective communication re. progress - 96% agree, 0% disagree*
- *Effective communication re. supporting learning - 92% agree, 0% disagree*
- *School makes me aware of what child is learning - 92% agree, 0% disagree*
- *Enjoy attending events at school (assemblies, sports day, Church services etc.) - 100% agree*
- *Parents have opportunities to feel involved e.g. FOCSA, Governing Body, special days - 96% agree, 0% disagree*
- *Favourite subjects - Art most popular, as it was last time*
- *Science grown in popularity - now #2, was #7 in the two most recent surveys*
- *Maths remains popular*
- *Literacy/Projects/DT/Cooking next*
- **Parents' Comments**
 - *13 commented: 6 expressed satisfaction, and in some cases extreme satisfaction, with the school*
- **Concerns raised:**

- *Sugar in lunches and Wow! Party cakes*
- *Homework relating to work not yet taught in class*
- *Disagreement with ban on photos of children*
- *Request for more detailed notes in books where child uses school bus = no direct teacher contact e.g. in playground*
- *1 parent said they had only ever received 1 newsletter*
- *Request to have more school assemblies in the afternoon*
- *Request for more technology to be used in class*

To answer some of the comments raised- newsletters can be emailed to parents. Please get in touch with the office if you would like this. All Newsletters are on the website.

We will offer the children a choice of fruit at the WOW tea party in future, although a child may only get WOW 2/3 times a term. Sugar in school lunches is carefully monitored by those who make them and subject to strict guidelines.

Communication - reading logs, email through the office, Tapestry, chat on the playground are all options should you wish to get in touch. Teachers will do their best to get back to you the same day but that is not always possible.

Homework - some parents want more, some parents find it too much. We do try to ensure there is a balance but parent support is key to help the progress of your child. Help with spelling/phonics/reading/times tables practice at home is essential please. Teachers often help children at lunchtime with homework if they are struggling.

If there is a safeguarding concern re photos being shared, we stop all unsupervised photos at events. This is for the safety of the child.

Some assemblies have been moved to the afternoon this term - please see key dates attached.

We will discuss all comments with staff and Governors and consider how we can improve on some of the other comments made. Thank you for your support.

Attendance - This is an improving picture, thank you; we have 14 children who are below 95% and only 1 below 90%. Avoiding term time holidays is the key!

Suffolk Parent Carer Network - If you have a child with additional needs/disabilities you may wish to come along to a meeting I have arranged with the Suffolk Parent Carer Network on Friday 7th February at 9am.

Best wishes

Mrs Harkin

Head teacher

Key dates - Please see the attached and the school website for a full list.