



19 December 2018

Dear Parents

I cannot believe how fast time has flown and that we are already at the end of the Autumn Term. So much has happened in the last four months from welcoming our new children in September to harvest festivals, class visits, sporting successes and our Christmas nativities. The school website and app are full of our adventures. On many occasions, when I show new parents around, they comment very favourably on the diverse range of extra-curricular opportunities, after-school clubs and enrichment activities that our children experience. This is because we believe passionately in developing the whole child and inspiring learning as our revised aims and values attest.

Making a Difference

The children's motto is 'Making a Difference' and this term they have certainly lived up to this in so many different ways. On a daily basis their manners, behaviour and general conduct make a difference to themselves and those around them. Some of the more obvious ways this term have included:

- Welcoming our new children and families into school
- Representing the school impeccably at sporting and enrichment activities and on school visits
- Performing with the choir
- Collecting food for those in need and supporting Hampers of Hope
- Raising money for Children in Need
- Performing for friends and family in our Christmas nativities
- Writing and publishing child-friendly policies by the School Council
- Raising money for Francis House Children's Hospice

Learning to Learn

This term saw the introduction of our five special learning friends in school. The five woodland characters each have a different learning trait and the children have been developing their learning behaviours through whole class lessons and on a daily basis. Parents can support us with this work at home by encouraging their children to be:

- responsible (owl) - for themselves and their actions
- resilient (badger) - stick at things when it becomes difficult
- ready (squirrel) - increase independence
- resourceful (fox) - encourage the children to find solutions before asking for help
- reflective (hedgehog) - develop their ability to plan ahead or evaluate afterwards

Congratulations must go to all those children who have received a learning to learn award this term. This is an area we will continue to focus on in the spring.

Classroom Monitor

The end of term Classroom Monitor report will be released on Friday 21st December. You will receive an email inviting you to view your child's report. If you have changed your email address, please inform the school office.

If you have any problems with accessing your child's report, please contact me via the school office. I do not have access to passwords so you will need to follow the link to request a reset.



As always, if you have any questions regarding your child's attainment or progress please speak to your class teacher who will be happy to discuss your concerns.

Mrs Fox

In October's newsletter, I informed parents that Mrs Fox had decided to retire from school after 30 years outstanding service and commitment.

It is hard to believe that the end has finally arrived and Mrs Fox will be leaving school this Friday. Gill has served school and the community of Alderley Edge, in the school office, day in day out – helping to support families and their children with the upmost professionalism. Like many jobs in school, the role is so much more than the title. On paper, the school bursar supports financial systems. In reality Mrs Fox has been a PA to everyone, a councillor and a delivery person of PE bags, instruments and forgotten lunch boxes!

I know you will join me in wishing Mrs Fox all the best for her retirement. She will always be most welcome to visit school at any time and I am sure many of you will continue to see her around in the village– don't forget to say hello!

Looking ahead

From January, Ms Heather Penn, will be the school bursar. Many of you may know Heather as a parent in school or through her work in the past with the PTA. She has many years' experience working in administration and finance in the commercial world and I know Heather is really looking forward to applying her skills to the world of education. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome her to the staff team. It is always difficult to take a up a new job so please support Heather during the first few months as she settles in and gets up to speed with systems and processes in school.

Important dates for your diary next half term:

7 th January	INSET day (The Squirrel Club is open for care)
8 th January	School reopens for children
5 th February	Internet Safety Day
6 th February	Internet Safety Talk for Parents by Cheshire Police (6.30 pm)
14 th January	Parent's book viewing of children's work after school
11 th – 15 th February	Science week
13 th /14 th February	Parents' evening
15 th February	Finish up for half term
25 th February	INSET day (The Squirrel Club is open)
26 th February	School reopens for children

New Home/School Agreement

When starting school, each child and family are asked to sign our home/school agreement. The existing document has been updated by the Governors with the new, revised school aims and some minor adaptations to parental and child expectations to reflect changes in school and society. In January, the new document will be issued. The school governors have decided that this is an



important document and should be an annual agreement. Going forward, it will be re-issued each September.

New Year's Resolution for All

The School Council have decided that for 2019 we are going to be an even healthier school. From January we would like to strongly encourage children to bring in healthy snacks on a Monday to Thursday.

As a reward for being healthy, we will be having Treat Friday. On Fridays, children may like to bring in a small treat for their snack such as a biscuit. Please do not send your children with sweets.

We advise that all snacks in school should be 'nut free' as we have children on site who are at risk of allergic reactions – even through touch or airborne.

One final note, I would like to say thank you to all children, staff and parents for all your help and support this term. Moving from deputy head/class teacher to head teacher has been a big change as the roles are very different. It has been very rewarding term and much easier because of all your support.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a fun-filled festive season and a healthy and happy 2019. We look forward to seeing you all safe and well in the New Year.

Yours sincerely

Lindsey Walsh
(Interim Headteacher)