

# **Dear Parents and Carers**

I am really pleased to be writing this end of year letter following my absence for most of this term. It is lovely to be back. Mrs Birch and I have been overwhelmed by the kind words and offers of support from you, they were much appreciated. I am well on the way to making a full recovery, and I am looking forward to being back full time in September. Mrs Birch is also recovering well and is hoping to start her return to teaching at The Elizabethan Academy in September.

I cannot believe that Misson Pre School have been working with us for a whole year now, but it feels like they have always been here and are very much an essential part of the school. It is lovely to see our amazing two and three year olds thriving in their new home. Keep a look out in September for some exciting new announcements.

It is with great pleasure that we welcomed back Mrs Tanner into Year 3&4 last week following her maternity leave. She has already been working closely with Mr Roberts to ensure that their class gets off to a flying start in September.

We have also welcomed Mrs Haigh as our new School Chef. She has been cooking up a stir with more children staying for dinner than ever. A new menu for the autumn term is available on our website. We hope you all want to take up our fantastically tasty meal. If you do please remember to pay in advance on Parent Pay if your child is in key stage 2.

Mrs Hardman has also made a great start in school as a midday supervisor. She will also be helping run the afterschool club along with Mrs Holdsworth, who we are delighted to have back in school in her new role as breakfast and after school club supervisor.

We have had to say a sad farewell to Mr Hocking who has relocated to Cumbria. He did a fabulous job as after school club supervisor for many years. We will miss him very much.

I am sure you all agree that Mr Roberts has not disappointed, yet again, by staging our first summer panto, Gruffed Up. Once again, the children surpassed themselves with their singing and acting. It was so lovely to see the journey our Year 6 children have made to become the confident performers we saw this week.

### **Fundraising**

I am delighted to report that we have raised over £4500 since Easter to pay for improvements to our KS1 playground. I would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff and children who have helped organise and run the fundraising events, and give our very grateful thanks to all the parents and local business for their generous donations.

## **Reminders**

**Uniform** – Only Items of uniform with the new school logo can be worn from September, logoed items are optional for all pieces of uniform except PE tops which must have the school logo to identify our children when competing with other schools. Further detail of our uniform are available on the website.

**Contact details** – Please make sure you keep your contact details up to date, these include mobile phone numbers and email address. We have had some parents missing important information because we did not have their correct details. If any contact information has changed please let the office know as soon as possible.

**Breakfast and After School Clubs** – We are pleased to announce a new earlier starting time for our breakfast club. Our new **starting time** is **7.45 am** and sessions will **cost £3.50**. Drop-in sessions for breakfast club are from 8.30 am and still cost £1. To enable our successful clubs to continue to run smoothly, please could all parents and carers make sure they give 24 hours' notice to cancel a pre booked place otherwise your ParentPay account will be charged. Can you also make sure places are paid for in advance.

**Children having packed lunches** – Please can you ensure that your child does not bring nuts, or food containing nuts into school, as we have several children with severe allergies to them. Could you also make sure your child has a drink and any cutlery they need to eat their packed lunch.

#### **Looking Forward**

The following things are happening next term:

- We will continue to invite parents to the last Friday assembly of each month to see children receiving special mentions and awards.
- INSET days Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September school closed
- School starts Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 8.45am
- Parents' welcome morning Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 9.00 10.00am
- Half term school finishes Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October
- School reopens on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November
- Autumn term finishes on Friday 20<sup>nd</sup> December

There will be three further INSET days on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February, Monday 28<sup>th</sup>, and Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July. I will publish a list of events for the year ahead in September.

# Start and finish times

Please remember that **school starts** at the earlier **time of 8.45** am. The end of school remains unchanged.

When we come back in September, school will <u>start at 8:45 am and finishe at 3:15 pm</u> for all children in Year 1 to Year 6. Reception children will attend for <u>FULL</u> days 8.45 am to 3.15 pm from Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September onwards UNLESS Mrs Yeaman has told them otherwise.

I would like to finish by offering the sincere thanks from myself, and all our staff for the kindness, generosity and support you have shown the school over the last year. We hope you all have a great summer holiday, and look forward to welcoming you back in the new school year.

Best wishes

John Birch