

# Newsletter 3: Friday 11th September 2020

#### Dear Parents

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us keep our school safe for your children. As you will know from the news, the situation is not going to ease anytime soon and we must all understand the part we play. Therefore, it is essential we continue to rely on your support in the following ways:

- Entry to the playground is from 8.50am. Please arrive as near to 9am as possible to avoid waiting.
- You must stand on your allocated spot. Toddlers cannot run around and must stay with you.
- After parents have dropped school children off in the playground, before going to Busy Bees, please wait outside the school gates until 9.10am to leave routes clear into school for the Year 5/6 children.
- Year 5/6 parents must not drive up to the school entrance to drop their Children off. This is extremely dangerous and will not be permitted.
- Please do not stand too near the entrances of the school. We want parents and children to feel confident they can enter school safely. That means we want them to have at least a one metre space from other adults.

## Congratulations to

our winners of the Summer Big Write Competition.

Prizes have been given to all the lucky winners.

- Year 1- Finley
- Brooks
- Kyla
- Joseph
- Lily
- Year 4 Rosie
- Year 5 Sara
- Poppy
- Jessicah
- Well done to Deena Reed for her fantastic parent entry.

Your children will be given a new PAWS folder today. They have until 11<sup>th</sup> December to complete these activities. Please use Seesaw to collect evidence as well as doing some of the activities on paper. This gives your child a good balance of ways to record. More about PAWS can be found on our website. Your child should bring their folder to school on Tuesdays so their teacher can track progress.

If you haven't returned these forms please do so as a matter of urgency. Thank you.

- Home School Agreement
- Permission letter
- Medical Form

It is essential your child reads every day so we want to ensure we provide you with reading material to help you do this.

Children on book band books from Year 1 - 4 will be bringing home their reading book on Mondays until Friday. They will be collected in on a Friday and rested for 72 hours over the weekend. The children will select a storybook for the weekend to read for pleasure. This should be returned on Monday.

You will appreciate that there are no certainties at the moment. However, I want to share with you a flavour of how we are attempting to provide a substitute experience for you that ensures you feel very much part of our school whilst adhering to Government Guidelines. These of course may have to change at any time.

- <u>Harvest Festival</u> Sadly, we cannot invite you in. We are not allowed to hold assemblies. We do want
  to continue to support the Gloucester Food Bank who need our help now more than ever. Children will
  have a Harvest Class Assembly in the week of Monday 12th October. They will be encouraged to
  bring a tin or some dry food product to school. These will be collected in the playground in the
  morning of Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October and picked up by the Food Bank the same day.
- <u>Parents' Evening</u> We cannot host Parents' Evening this term in the usual way. The staff have discussed a number of alternatives. We would like to consider your views before making a final decision. Please complete the Google Form by following the link by Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September to state your preference: https://forms.gle/hja56vZieCtuLnRM8
  - I would prefer to have my child's books at home for the weekend.
  - I would prefer to talk to my child's teacher by phone
  - I would prefer to see my child's teacher in person. I understand that we are trying to limit this
    option to keep everyone safe. If this is necessary appointments will be for one adult, no children
    present, a mask must be worn and the time recorded by egg timer to ensure the 10 minute
    contact regulation is not breeched.

Once we have an awareness of our parent's views we will organise the next steps. In the meantime, at the teacher's request, just a small number of families will be asked to meet their child's teacher. This will ensure your child has the best start to their new class by working together on our catch up programme.

- Open Day The local Authority has given us guidance that prevents us holding these in school.
   Instead, we are hoping to make a video to put on our school website for prospective parents to view.
- <u>Nativity</u> We will definitely ensure you enjoy this momentous experience. We are working on a way and will be in touch with you again.

An alert: Please know that TIK TOK is not a suitable site for Children under the age of 13. There has been some very scary footage on here lately. All these sites start off feeling safe and a bit of fun but please be aware that they do not stay safe for long. Your child should not have access.

Andy Tucker football begins on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September.
3.10pm-4.10pm
Children will be taught in their secure bubbles.

Please support our very precious team of FRIENDS this year. They are already working tirelessly to support the school. This group of volunteer parents has two aims:

- To bring together the community and ensure we support one another.
- To raise money for the school so the children can benefit from resources that otherwise we would not be able to afford.

It will be difficult this term because guidelines limit the kind of events we can hold. We cannot have a Christmas Fayre for example. Please be assured that this very creative group of enthusiastic parents are coming up with some great alternatives. More details will be in forthcoming newsletters.

If you would like to join FRIENDs you would be made to feel very welcome. It's a great way to make new friends!

#### Forthcoming dates for your diary

## Key Dates - Autumn Term-2020

Monday 7th September-Reception children start school.

22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> September- Henley Bank Open Days- Places must be booked-one adult only

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October- FRIENDS AGM- By Zoom. Please ensure Heidi Mullins knows of your interest to attend.

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October- Harvest Festival Collection for Gloucester Food Bank

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October-Grammar School Entrance Exam

Monday 26th October-Friday 30th October-Half Term

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November-School starts

Wednesday 18th November-Individual photos

Friday 11th December - PAWS in

Monday 14th December-Reception Party

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December- Year 1/2 Christmas Party

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December- Year 5/6 Christmas Party

Thursday 17th December - Flu immunisations- information will be distributed when we have it.

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December - Year 3/4 Christmas Party

Friday 18th December- School finishes 2pm





Well done to Olivia and Charlotte for the part they have played in representing our school as part of the Gloucester Girls Schools Team 2019-20.

This is an amazing achievement. We look forward to tracking your progress on the field this year.