



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the first half term, we have looked at different aspects of our provision so far, to consider what has gone well and where we might make further improvements. Considering the complexity of what we all needed to do to re-open the school safely and successfully, I feel that we have made an excellent start overall, as a result of everyone working so well together.

The routines at the start and end of the day are working effectively overall. If everybody sticks to the agreed timings then social distancing can be observed and the children can be dropped off and collected safely. Mrs Stevens and I have monitored this closely this half term and we can see that this arrangement works. There have been one or two blips that have coincided with poor weather which highlight the need for everyone to follow the agreed routines consistently.

After half term, we are going to increase our signage around school to provide more information that we hope you will find helpful. We are also going to ask Reception parents to drop off and collect their children from the Reception playground to create a bit more space on the pavement by the side entrance at the front of school. Hopefully, these adjustments will help to keep these routines running smoothly and safely for everyone's benefit and we will continue to monitor this carefully.

With regard to routines, we have noticed that several children are coming to school late and parents are sometimes coming to the office to drop off school equipment or packed lunches. We know that this can happen occasionally but we would ask for your support in bringing the children to school on time with everything they need for the day.

Could I also remind parents that dogs are not allowed on the premises. Some children have a fear of dogs and allergies, so please don't bring them to school.

Next Friday is a training day so the last day of this half term is Thursday 22nd October. It's been quite a rollercoaster ride but we have overcome a significant hurdle and set a good foundation for the rest of the year. We couldn't have done this without your support which we appreciate enormously. We have been reminded this week by WCC to avoid complacency and to remain vigilant in the next few weeks so please take care and stay safe.

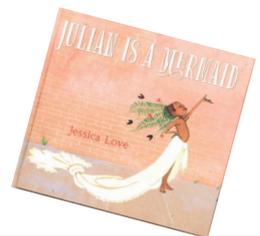
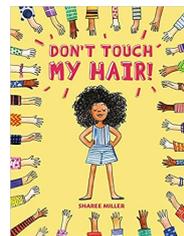
What's Going On

Thursday 22nd October -
Last day of this half term for pupils

Friday 23rd October -
Teacher Training Day

Monday 2nd November -
1st day of second half term

Year One have had a great week fully immersed in 'Black History Week.' We have enjoyed some beautiful books and learned about some incredible people. We enjoyed our Year One 'Carnival' today, walking around the playground with our headdresses and dancing to music.



Attendance News



Highest class attendance for last week—Classes RH, 1V & 3C (Miss Hancox, Ms Valentine & Mr Clark) with 100%!

Whole school attendance to date - 94.7% (school target 96.5%)

What I love about Woodloes

I like doing maths with
the cubes.
Jessica



Friends of Woodloes (PTA)

The Friends of Woodloes are holding their annual AGM (online) at 6pm on 4th November. If you would like to find out more about the PTA or wish to become a new member then we would be very pleased to hear from you!

Friends are busy discussing events/activities for the year ahead and are currently focusing on a Halloween activity, as the 'spooky' season will soon be upon us! Further details to follow



Focus on Excellence



Year 3 got creative this week in our support of World Mental Health Day. We wanted to identify what makes us and the people around us happy. Therefore we decided to create a Happy Tree which we filled with positive messages. The pupils were fantastic at discussing how different things make different people happy and how important it is to be kind. We made it our pledge to pass on a smile each day!



Other News

Dates for diary

As mentioned on the first page of the newsletter, it is a teacher training day on Friday 23rd October. The school will then be closed for half term the following week and re-opens on Monday 2nd November.

If your child is currently in Year Six, you will be aware that the deadline date to apply for secondary school is fast approaching: 31st October. If you have not already done so, you will need to apply before this date.

You will have received the proof of your child's photo this week. Please note the deadline for orders via school is Monday 19th October. Late orders received after this date will incur an additional postage fee. You can place orders directly yourself online (details with the proofs).

Fundraising

A huge thank you for supporting YoungMinds#HelloYellow day held on 9th October for World Mental Health Day. 2020 hasn't been the year we all imagined it would be; it's been tough. Lockdown and the closure of schools have had a huge effect on children and young people's mental health. We had an amazing day filled with joy and colour, raising a total amount of £310 for YoungMinds.

With 3 children in every class with a mental health problem, YoungMinds is leading the fight for a future where all young minds are supported and empowered, whatever the challenges. They exist to make sure young people get the best possible mental health support and have the resilience to overcome life's difficulties. Thanks again for your support.

School Crossing Patrol

The school crossing patrol on Millers Road will be back on duty on Monday 19th October, so that crossing will be manned from then.