



Weekly Newsletter – Wednesday 16th September 2020

Thank you all again for your support getting the children back into school safely at the start of term. We have had to tweak a few things along the way, but you have responded really positively, and things are starting to settle into more of a routine. Walking around the school, it has been a joy to see all the children in Years 1-6 totally absorbed in their Maths lessons and working hard to support each other. I would also like to say thank you for supporting our healthy snack initiative. We have been really impressed with the variety of healthy fruit and vegetable snacks brought into school by children in KS2.

Learning Behaviours

We have started to implement the McKie Mastery approach to teaching and learning which means you may hear the children talking about the learning behaviours we are developing through our rewards system. Children will work in teams in their Literacy and Maths lessons and be encouraged to earn points for their team by displaying the learning behaviours detailed below.



Over the next few weeks, we will be teaching the children each of these skills and how to apply them to improve their learning and earn more points. The winning team in each class will be awarded a trophy and announced in our celebration assembly on a Friday. In addition to this the winning team will also be able to choose a treat such as an extra 10 minutes of playtime for example.

McKie Mastery was on our school development plan last year and we had only just started staff training when we went into lockdown. We are already seeing the benefits of the reward system in school and feel excited about the potential of the McKie Mastery approach to transform teaching and learning. Please encourage your children to talk to you about the learning behaviours and how they can earn points for their team.

Team Points and House Captains

Team points will no longer be awarded to individual children as tokens for their house team. Rewards will be given according to the McKie Mastery approach outlined above for their 'in-class' teams. We plan to retain Houses and House Captains but need time to think about how these roles will change and develop in the current climate. We have chosen not to elect House Captains this term as we do not have a role for them to fulfil in school however, we will reinstate these when we have defined a clear purpose and function for them.

School Council

Elections are currently taking place for School Council and these positions will be announced next week through an assembly which you will be able to view on Class Dojo. Children on the School Council will be able to take part in remote or socially distanced meetings in school this term to share their views and support our school development plans. This term their focus will be:

What can we all do to improve our physical, emotional and mental health?

Mini-Cadets

This will resume from Thursday 24th September. We have made Lt Thompson aware that the children in Orange Bubble have PE on Thursdays and will be wearing their PE kits, so this will not be a problem. Children in Pink and Orange Bubbles will be kept separate during the sessions in line with our risk assessment.

Parent Consultations

We are just in the process of finalising details for this term's parent consultations and we will let you know as soon as possible how to book an appointment with your child's class teacher. Please note that this term we will be unable to offer face to face meetings.

Early Intervention Family Worker

We are pleased to confirm that Zoe Hope has been appointed as our new Early Intervention Family Worker. If you would like to arrange an appointment with Zoe to discuss any matters relating to parenting, please contact the School Office (office@wpa.education).

School Photographs

Although school photographs will still take place on Tuesday 13th October, we will be unable to offer group photographs which would normally include siblings either in school or pre-school children.

Flu Immunisation

We have received confirmation from NHS that this year's flu immunisation programme will take place on Thursday 12th November for children in all year groups. We will shortly be sending out the booking form which will include a link to either accept or decline the nasal spray.

Quick Reference Guide

We have recently shared with you the Local Authority's Guidance on the steps which should be followed if your child becomes ill. However, if you have not received this via Parentmail/Facebook we have pleasure in attaching the document for your safe keeping.

Lost Property

A polite reminder to please ensure all your child's uniform has their name written/sewn into both labels (neck and body). Even though it is only the second week back, we have a small collection of unnamed items which we are unable to return to their owner. Thank you.

Dates for your diary:-

24 th September	Mini-Cadets Recommence
13 th October	Individual School Photographs Only (see above)
26 th to 30 th October	Half-Term
12 th November	Flu Immunisation (All Year Groups)