



10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **NEWSLETTER - Issue 1**

Our newsletter this week comes in the form of a letter due to the amount of information we have to share. We hope to be back to an easier to read format very soon.

### **Welcome from our new Chair of Governors**

Mrs Angela Robinson, our previous Chair, concluded her term of office on our Governing Board in August. I am pleased to inform you that Sean Prosser has now been appointed as our new Chair. Mr Prosser has been on our Governing Board since 2017 so is an experienced governor and is also a member of the local community. He is hoping to join us on the gates on a couple of mornings in the near future to say hello to you all.

### **Homework**

Our homework arrangements across the school will stay the same as communicated last year and can be found on [our website](#). However, there has been a slight change to dates for Year 5. They will be sending their homework out on a Wednesday. All other year groups will be a Thursday. There has been a slight delay to the setting of homework due to a technical glitch within Microsoft Teams. Therefore, first homework tasks will be set next week (15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> September).

### **Reading Books**

Children in Reception have been issued with a library book today for sharing at home with an adult. These books are to enjoy listening to a good story being read to them. Please return these books to school on Thursday next week so we can swap them and issue you with a new book. Children's reading books for Reception children will be issued next week and then changed alongside their phonics lessons progression.

The children in KS1 will bring home a reading book every three days this will be a familiar book that they will have been learning to read in their phonics lessons (phonics lessons are 3-day cycle). This provides them with the opportunity to celebrate their reading fluency and expression at home. They will need their book bag in every day. Every Thursday, when homework is given out, they will also take home a sharing book which they can change every Thursday.

The children in KS2 have been allocated a reading book from our school reading provision. These books are selected to fit their reading ability ensuring that the children can read fluently and enjoy doing so. When the children finish reading their book, they can bring it back to school (along with their reading record), discuss the story with a member of staff before choosing another book to take home. Therefore, there is no set day for the children to bring in their book bags.



Over the summer holidays, our school library has been completely renovated. Although not totally finished yet, it is looking fantastic and Mrs. Hughes is working hard to get the books catalogued as quickly as possible so that the children can access them independently. We aim to be up and running by last week in September.

### **Celebration Assemblies**

Our first celebration assemblies of the year will take place next week. KS2 will be on Thursday at 10am and KS1 will take place on Friday at 10:15am. Parents of those children receiving an award will be invited by Tuesday or Wednesday respectively.

### **Attention Year 6 Parents!**

The application round for applying for a **secondary school place** opens today (10<sup>th</sup> September) and is open until the 31<sup>st</sup> October. It is important that you spend time selecting your child's secondary school and submit your application before the deadline. For further information on the application process, please see the [Northants Council website](#). The date for Bedfordshire is the same but you will need to follow the [Beds County Council website](#) information. Please visit the websites of the schools you are considering in order to establish their arrangements for visits and information sessions prior to applying.

### **Open Mornings for Prospective Parents**

We are planning to hold an open morning on the **8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> October 2021** for prospective parents who are looking for a Reception school place for September 2022. Please share this information with anybody you know that will be considering primary schools for this time. The open morning will begin at 9:30am with last admissions at 11:00am. Application round opens today (10<sup>th</sup> September) and closes on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022. For further details and dates, please visit the [North Northants Council website](#).

### **Dates for Your Diary – Parents Evening**

We are currently producing a programme of dates for the year which we will be able to share with you shortly. In the meantime, I would like to share with you the dates and arrangements for parents evening this term. Parents evening sessions will be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of October. Based on the feedback we received after our last round of meetings, we are planning to hold one evening of face-to-face sessions and one evening of virtual sessions, which parents will be able to choose which one they would prefer to attend.

### **Henry's Friends – AGM**

The Annual General Meeting for Henry's Friends is being held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September @ 7:30pm at the School. All are welcome to attend and the board are always happy to see new members join the team. Please come along for the meeting if you would like to.

### **Parent Governor Vacancy**

We currently have a vacancy for a parent governor. More information will be shared soon on what is involved in becoming a governor and how to enter a nomination.



## **Learning Outside the Classroom**

Staff are currently reviewing plans for educational visits and attempting to establish some relevant and meaningful trips each year group to attend. Once we have confirmed details of these, we will of course share with you. We are also in the planning stages for some residentials this year. Further information will follow very shortly.

Have a great weekend!

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Dainty".

Mr. S Dainty  
**Head Teacher**