

5th July 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you Pets at Home for a really interesting session last Monday, our reception pupils were so interested in how to care for all the animals and loved being able to carefully handle them. Thank you, Hayley Mann, for arranging this for us for our second year.

Those of you who attend Super Stars Gymnastics will be aware that the children are taking part in their first competition this Sunday. Below is a message from Michelle if you would like to go along and support.

'Super Star Gymnastics is hosting a competition for all students to take part in on Sunday 7th July, 1.00-3.00pm at All Saints Academy, Cheltenham. The competition will have 3 categories: floor, bench and a group routine. All participating children will receive a certificate and the top 5 in each category will be awarded a medal. We will also do special awards for children that have showed determination, growth mindset, kindness, teamwork and persistence as we feel these learning skills should also be celebrated!'

Warm regards,

Michelle

I'm so looking forward to seeing the children's gymnastic skills on Sunday.

Gloucester Academy of Music are offering guitar lessons, they can only go ahead if there is enough take up. If you would like your child to have lessons, please come in and get further details.

We were very fortunate to have a Spacewoman land on Tuesday morning to launch the Summer Reading Challenge at Quedgeley Library. This is a fantastic free summer activity. The children have to read at least 6 library books over the summer holiday and they will receive a certificate when they finish. Pop into the library to sign up and receive your child's 'special mission folder'. Thank you Quedgeley Library and the Library Service for visiting us in school.

In order that the start of next term is smooth at Olympus Park, we will be holding an 'open hour' on Tuesday 3rd September from 9.00am -10.00am when you can come and look at your child's classroom, find out where to drop off and pick up your child and familiarise yourself with the new location. We are limiting it to an hour as obviously the staff still need time to ensure everything is ready to deliver the excellent learning and teaching that is our core purpose.



I have arranged for the children to continue Forest School next year in collaboration with a Forest School Leader. Each class will have 6 Forest School sessions (with school staff, volunteers as well as the Forest School Leader) on a rolling programme. We will take a coach to and from a local Forest School site, we are currently looking at Alney Island and Highnam Woods. The cost of this will be met by the school.

On Friday 19th July the DfE Education Adviser will be coming in to visit the school and ensure everything is at it should be. Thank you to those parents who have agreed to meet with him.

For the last few weeks of the term we are trialling a revised marking policy in line with national guidelines on teacher workload. Teachers already give verbal feedback, address misconceptions, re teach through scoop groups or whole class according to their live assessments and through looking at books once work has been completed. This is where the true value of feedback lies. Up until now they have written VF (verbal feedback) or given an acknowledgement mark of a tick to show that the work has been assessed and feedback given to a child, the tick mark does not have a direct impact on the children, the impact is from the interaction between the pupil and teaching staff. We are no longer writing VF or ticking the books but teachers are still looking at them and will still write s (supported) or I (independent) and in maths tick the manipulatives used. As a staff we plan to review this again at the beginning of the Autumn term. If you have any concerns, please speak with your class teacher or me.

I'm sure you have the children's Wow Assemblies firmly in your diary. Please do come and hear all about the exciting things the children have learnt this year. Year 1's will take place at 9.15am on 11th July and Reception's will take place on 22nd July at 9.15am

Finally the PTA will be sending information regarding the summer fayre so keep your eyes peeled!

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Kate Moss

Mrs Kate Moss

Headteacher



