



West Kidlington
Primary & Nursery School

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Friday 9th September 2022

Dear Families

Welcome back to a new school year. It has been a busy one and Thursday's news has meant a sad end to a positive week. The children have come back into school in a positive frame of mind. So many children have been giving their best and been kind. I am very proud of their start. We welcome lots of new families to West Kidlington. Please can I ask that you welcome new families and if you see anyone lost or looking lonely – please say hello. Sometimes the playground can be frightening for adults.

Queen Elizabeth II (1926-2022)

Today in school, we have been remembering our late Queen for the person that she was and the things which were important to her throughout her life. We remembered her life as a servant to our nation but also to so many other countries across the globe and the good that she did and the love and compassion she brought to the world. We held a very special assembly this morning to pay our respects to Queen Elizabeth. The children were reflective and attentive. We shared what we can take from her reign as people. Kindness, finding time for fun, enjoying life and resilience are values she held. We learnt about two new words – cherished and mourning. We gave information about what might happen next and invited further discussion in classrooms.

"We have been extremely fortunate to be ruled by such a kind Queen. She was an impressive person who gave her best. Our school will continue to learn lessons from her reign after her passing."



School uniform

Please can all families action any letters that have been sent home regarding school uniform. It is important that we get this right. Earrings, leggings and footwear have been challenged.

Home School Agreement

The Home School Agreement is how we would like Families in school to work alongside trying to give the very best for all children. There are certain responsibilities that are crucial. Reading at home, being on time, keeping the school informed and talking positively about school are some of the expectations. Please can you read this document carefully. We expect every parent to sign this document and promise to follow it. We are sending two hard copies to you today. One is to be signed by parents and the other is to be kept in your home. Please can the Home School Agreement be sent back to your class teacher by Friday 16th September.

Family Welcome and Curriculum Letters

On Monday, each class will send a letter detailing what learning is taking place in you child's class. It will also share key information about how each child's class will work.



West Kidlington Nursery

The children have come in well; new children joining our nursery have enjoyed their settling in session and those that are returning to nursery are beginning to settle back into nursery life and learning.

We hope new parents found the welcome pack we sent useful especially the document called 'Starting Nursery' which contained information about routines and photographs of areas of nursery and nursery staff. A copy is also attached.

We will be organizing a nursery meeting for all nursery parents on Thursday 15th September at 6.00pm and hope you are all able to attend. If you are unable to attend, please let us know. It is probably best if adults only came. During the meeting we will share with you how teaching and learning takes place in nursery, which is different from how we all might remember school.

School Attendance

Some families may have received a letter yesterday outlining the attendance expectations. This letter also informed you if your child's attendance was under 90% last academic year, which is our responsibility as a school to notify you of. It is the responsibility of each family to ensure that their child is in school and on time. If for any reason you have an unavoidable appointment you will be expected to provide evidence of the appointment for our records. Unfortunately, if you are not able to provide evidence the absence will become unauthorised.

Sweets and treats

Could we please remind all families **not** to bring in sweets or treats to celebrate a child's birthday. This is part of the school's healthy eating pledge. We also have an increasing number of children with allergies and parents who do not want their child eating sweets or cake after school. Perhaps instead the child could bring in their favourite book to share with their class. If treats and sweets are brought into school to share, the class teacher will politely return them home with the child.

Have a restful weekend and look after one another.

Kind regards
Mr Isherwood