

Headteacher' s Newsletter

Autumn 1 2015

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome Back!

We hope that you have had a great summer break; it is such a long time to be away. We are so very pleased to welcome everyone back to the start of what will be another exciting year at Netherfield Primary and Pre-School. It is great to see all of the children back in school and to note how much they seem to have grown over the summer holiday. It is also great to see the children looking smart in their uniforms.

We are really happy to welcome a number of new members to our dedicated staff team. I know you will join us in making the new staff feel welcome – they are looking forward to getting to know you over the coming weeks and months and working in partnership with you to provide the very best for your children.

Our new staff members are:

Miss Katie Cook – Teacher in Class 11
Miss Nicola Gretton – Teacher in Class 1
Miss Katya Aleksic – Teacher in Class 6
Mrs Rowan Carr – SENCo
Mrs Emma Bucknell –TA in EYFS
Miss Ruth Allcock – TA in EYFS
Mr Phil Holland – Site Manager
Mr Jake Dickman – PE Apprentice

Miss Sarah Hartley – Teacher in Dragonflies
Mr James Payne – Teacher in Class 5
Miss Heather Lievesley – Teacher in Class 8
Mr Richard Gibbons – ICT Technician
Mrs Sally Gordon-Sibley – TA in Year 5
Miss Chloe Hodkin – TA in Year 4
Mr Neville Vanagelis – Site Manager

This year we are continuing to focus on reading as a priority, in particular with promoting 'reading for pleasure' and this is something that we are asking for your support with. As with all skills, we know that reading improves with practice. Our request is that you hear your own child read every day wherever possible. We know how much the children like to share their developing skills with adults and to talk about what they have read; for them to be given the opportunity to do this on a daily basis is really helpful.

All children will have regular home learning - including spellings to learn - which they will bring home with them each week. You will receive a newsletter from your child's class teacher with further information about this. We ask that you encourage your child to practice their spellings and complete home learning and return it to school.

On Monday we had a whole school assembly where we began to explore what it means to act with integrity. We discussed the values; kindness, honesty, respect, politeness, perseverance and resilience. We talked about the meaning of each of these values and how we might be able to show these in school and at home. This is something that we are going to explore further as the term progresses.

Over the coming months, the governors are hoping to recruit a new Headteacher for our school. They are working hard to ensure that they find the right person to take over this important role. As and when we have any news to share with you on this matter, we will do so immediately.

As always, our main priority is the safety, well-being and happiness of all of the children and adults in school – and this includes you. We know that the children achieve best when they are happy and feel emotionally secure and supported. Working together in partnership with parents and carers makes this easier to achieve and we ask that you share with us any concerns that you may have and we will endeavour to support you and your child in any way possible. In addition to this, if you have any suggestions to make that you feel might help us to improve what we do here, please don't hesitate to share them with us.

Thank you to all of you for a warm welcome back to the new school year.

Yours truly

Mrs Essex