

# Newsletter

September 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to school to all our families!

I am very pleased to report that our first week back has been super! It has been wonderful to see everyone again after such a long time and I am delighted that the children have come into school so calmly, sensibly and with a smile. The children have been a real credit to you and have responded so well to all the adaptations and measures in place at school to keep them safe. I'd like to say thank you to all our parents who have supported us and followed our guidance and control measures to keep our community safe.

I'm sure you will have seen the latest change to guidance and our Prime Ministers address on Wednesday; please help us to continue to keep everyone safe by following all the measures in place.

It has been a real pleasure to walk around school this week and see all the hard work that is already underway. The atmosphere in every classroom was calm, settled and positive and children were engaged with and enjoying their learning. A great start back, well done children!

Mrs Boyle

## CLASS NEWS

I look forward to sharing more of the children's learning with you as the term progresses but wanted to share a little of the things they have been busy doing this week.

### Acorn and Chestnut News

Acorn and Chestnut staff have been very busy this week meeting our new reception children and talking to their families. This has been really positive for all involved and we hope that it has helped prepare the children before they start school next week. We look forward to welcoming them into school for their first session on Monday.

### Willow and Hawthorn News

Children in year 1 have got straight down to work and have worked really hard this week, particularly on their phonics. They have learnt lots already in their Geography lessons and next week will be enjoying a walk around our local area.

### Sycamore and Maple News

Year 2 have been busy reading "The Lighthouse Keepers Lunch" and using this as a stimulus for their written work. They have just begun their topic on portraits and already have some fabulous art work to display.

### Pine and Palm News

Children have engaged well in their 'Under the Sea' transition topic, using this as a stimulus for written work and craft work. All children have worked hard to show what they can recall and do in mathematics.

### Oak and Elm News

Year 4 children have been busy taking part in 'getting to know you' tasks and have worked incredibly hard showing their teachers all that they can do in their Mathematics, Reading and Writing. They have been particularly creative with lollipop sticks as they learn all about Roman Numerals!

## Conifer News

Children have worked really hard this week particularly with their reading and phonics skills. It has been good to see everyone working hard at their written work too. They have all enjoyed a special activity making iced biscuits which resulted in some super creations!

## COVID 19 SAFETY MEASURES

### Staggered drop off and collections:

Thank you for helping us to reduce the number of families on site at any one time and to limit the mixing between bubbles. Please can I remind all parent's to only come on site at the time allocated to you, not before.

### Social distancing:

Please remember as adults to social distance at all times. Please use the lines on the playground to help you with this. We are not currently asking parents or carers to wear masks but we will keep this under review and follow any local or national guidance. If you choose to wear a mask please feel free to do so. Please only enter main reception if there is no-one else in there otherwise we would ask that you wait outside the door. Please only come into the school main reception if absolutely necessary.

### Birthday party invites and sweets:

I am really sorry but sadly at this time we are unable to accept birthday party invites or sweets into school to give out to the other children in the class. We hope that this will only be a temporary measure whilst we try to limit things going between different homes and school.

### Post Box:

The post box is checked daily so any forms/letters can be dropped in there.

### Uniform:

If you are ordering uniform from Affordable Schoolwear, you can arrange for it to be delivered to school. It will be placed on the table in the main reception for your collection.

## HEADTEACHER & PARENTS COFFEE MORNING

Our coffee mornings and afternoons were well received last year and a good opportunity for parents to hear about things happening in school and have provided an opportunity for parents to ask questions. Unfortunately at this current time we are unable to host these at school. However we will keep this under review and consider how we may be able to find an alternative way to continue to provide this.



## ROAD SAFETY

Could I please remind you to park safely and courteously around school at drop off time and the end of the day so as to avoid any accidents or mishaps and to be considerate of our neighbours and each other. The parking bays opposite the leisure centre are allocated to residents and not for our use. Could I encourage you to please also avoid stopping on the yellow lines. I understand that parking is difficult and when time is short or weather is particularly bad you want to get as near as possible. However, we really do need to be conscious of everyone's safety and avoid what could be a terrible accident. Then we can ensure we care for all of our children in this respect. Thank you.

## ENRICHMENT AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

We are very keen to continue to offer support for working families at this difficult time therefore, our School Care Club is still operating Monday to Friday before and after school. If you need any further information please look at our website or contact the school office who will be very happy to help you.

To enable us to operate our Care Club safely we are now using the hall in addition to two classrooms. This unfortunately means that we are currently unable to offer other after school clubs.

However, we are able to offer some clubs within the school day and we continue to be grateful for the support of our parents who operate a very popular football club for all ages on a Saturday.

Tenacity Dance: Every Tuesday Lunchtime. Children will be made aware who this is available to.

Silsoe Lower FC: All years are invited to join our football clubs, which operates on a Saturday morning. Please contact the club secretary, Mrs Hayley Edwards on [silsoelowerfc.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:silsoelowerfc.secretary@gmail.com) for further information.

## COMMUNICATION

Just a reminder that our telephone number is 01525 860247 and our email is [admin@silsoelower.co.uk](mailto:admin@silsoelower.co.uk).

Whilst we try and check the email ([admin@silsoelower.co.uk](mailto:admin@silsoelower.co.uk)) regularly we ask that this means of contacting us should not be used when informing us of things such as appointments or pick-ups relating to that same day. Sometimes events overtake us and emails may not be checked until out of school hours.

Silsoe Pre-school can be reached on 01525 864938.

Using our answerphone – we have had a number of cases of parents saying they have left messages about child absence but no message has been received. We are assuming this is not a system error otherwise no messages would be received at all and this is never the case. Please could you ensure that if reporting a pupil absent you choose option 1 and then option 1 again. At this point you have to wait for the recording asking you to leave a message after the tone. Once you've heard the tone you're good to go with your message. Hope that helps.

### Parentmail

Thank you to all those families who have signed up to receive regular communications from the school. Please make sure you open messages, read them carefully and respond where necessary. Bits of paper sent home often get lost and this is not a secure way to liaise with our families going forward.

### Website

For information about our school, our calendar and class news please visit: <https://www.silsoeschool.co.uk>

Each class has their own page with lots of information about the term ahead, please do take a look.

## VACANCIES

We currently have vacancies for Midday Supervisors and Teaching Assistants. If you are interested in any of these roles please see our school website for more information or call into and speak to a member of staff in the school office. We look forward to hearing from you.

## SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER

We have the school photographer coming into school on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October. Due to current restrictions they will only be taking individual portraits. On this occasion we are unfortunately unable to do any sibling photographs whether they are in school or not. If your child has PE on a Wednesday please could they come in to school in their uniform and their PE lesson will be adapted so that it can be done in uniform.

## OUR SCHOOL VISION

Our vision is to be an excellent, God-centred, values-based, community-focused school where everyone is welcomed, encouraged and included.

Our children will develop as creative, determined learners and responsible citizens inspired to achieve their God-given potential and live life in all its fullness. We will foster understanding, tolerance and forgiveness within our caring Christian community.