



8<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome back to Briary after what we hope has been a wonderful summer! Our Year 1 and 2 children have settled well into their new classes this week - they deserve a pat on the back and a cheer! We certainly are off to a great start and all of us are looking forward to meeting our new Reception children, for their very first day of school, this Monday.

Infant Staff					
Reception		Year 1		Year 2	
Elmer	Marmaduke	Donaldson	Jeffers	Ahlberg	Carle
Mrs Boughton Mrs Batey	Mrs James (Mrs Geeves - Wednesdays)	Mrs Laffey	Mrs Denby Mrs Geeves	Mrs Gregory	Miss McDonald- Smith
Mrs Kelly	Miss Lukehurst	Miss Kearney	Mrs Neal Mr Silk	Mrs Scottor	Mrs Kreeger
Miss Lee		Mrs Wotton and Mrs Jordan			
Mrs Heppeler - Speech and Language					

This year, we are promoting **daily reading** at home. If your child reads aloud to you, or if you read a story to your child, then please record it in their reading record book. Independent reading can also be recorded. Remember that it is important to strike a balance and to keep reading fun and enjoyable.



### STAR READERS



Star readers read at home 5 times a week to earn stamps.



Stamps can be collected and exchanged for prizes.



Rainbow spellings will be sent home soon, attached to the children's diaries; please help your child to learn their spellings in fun ways.

The children will also bring home their 'Learning Journals'. Challenges will be set in these, for example, they may be asked to find out about the topics we are covering in school; many of them enjoy doing this at home. You can also use these books to record anything your child has enjoyed out of school. Such entries in the journals can be used in class as a talking point.

In Years 1 and 2, maths games will be changed on Fridays. Playing the game with your child each week provides a good opportunity for you to talk about maths with your child. Year 2 children will also start to learn their times tables this term.

### Reminders

Please always phone the office first thing if your child is going to be absent (e.g. they are too ill to come to school). This means that we know your child is safe. If you don't phone and we can't get hold of you and your child is not in school, we don't know they are safe.

Children are expected to wear correct school uniform. Please do not allow children to bring jewellery, toys or mobile phones to school. This causes a great distraction and can be very upsetting for a child if things get lost or broken. We would also ask girls to keep hair accessories to a minimum and to keep long hair tied back.

Please ensure that your child has a P.E. kit, consisting of black or white shorts, white T-shirt or purple Briary T-shirt (not a polo shirt), a pair of plimsolls or trainers and a spare pair of socks & all of which must be clearly named. P.E. kit must be in school at all times and only taken home for washing at the end of each term. With regard to earrings, please try to ensure they are removed for P.E. days, or supply tape to cover ears.

PE Days			
Donaldson	Jeffers	Ahlberg	Carle
Thursdays Games	Mondays Swimming	Fridays Dance	Tuesdays Dance
Fridays - Gymnastics		Wednesdays - Competitive Sport	

Topics for this term are as follows:

### Reception - 'Getting to Know You'

We will be welcoming our new children into school and helping them to settle in to the Briary family! We are looking forward to finding out all about each other.

We will be learning about school routines and exploring the school environment. In maths we will focus on counting, ordering and shapes. Our Power of Reading books this term are Marmaduke stories by Rachel Valentine, and Elmer stories by David McKee. We will also be reading and listening to lots of nursery rhymes. At the end of the first week we will send home learning journeys and 'WOW moment' forms. As soon as the children are settled, we will embark on our phonics programme and send home reading books. If you have any questions please come and find us after school!

### Year 1 - Storytime

We will explore books written by the author that our class is named after, as well as looking at traditional tales. In English we will be studying 'The Snail and the Whale' by Julia Donaldson. We will be focussing on primary skills such as capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. In Science we are looking at a variety of materials and their properties. In RE we look at the childhood of Jesus, and in PSHE we are looking at feelings and relationships. During Maths we will be looking at number and place value and will count forward and backwards. Jeffers Class start their swimming lessons on 11<sup>th</sup> September, which run for 3 terms.

### Year 2 - Books

We will be focusing on traditional tales. Our main text, 'The Jolly Postman' by Allan Ahlberg, is a fabulous story which will inspire the children to write letters, postcards and books of their own. As part of our topic, we hope to plan a trip into town to visit the local library and book shop - more details to follow. We will also set up a 'Flat Stanley' project, which will be ongoing for the whole year and will involve postcards being sent to the children (from Flat Stanley) from many places in the U.K. and further abroad. Again, more details to follow. In maths, we will focus on the place value of two-digit numbers (tens and ones), adding a one-digit number to a two-digit number, subtraction from two-digit numbers. Our science unit is 'Animals, including Humans' and in PSHE, we will consider feelings and relationships. For RE, we will learn about stories Jesus told.

The children all have their own named water bottle, provided by the Friends, and are able to drink water regularly throughout the day.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that Briary Primary School is a **Nut Free School** due to the fact that several of our pupils have severe, life-threatening allergies to nuts including:- peanuts, peanut butter, Nutella and other chocolate spreads, pecans, walnuts, nut oils, nut flavourings etc., body lotions, shampoos etc. containing

any nuts. Touching, smelling or eating any of these items may provoke a severe allergic reaction.

### Diary Dates

We will be sending out a list of Diary Dates next week up to the end of the academic year. Please be reminded that dates are being added all year and to keep a look out for them on the Bulletin, Newsletters and website.

If you have any concerns or would like to speak to us at any time, then please do not hesitate to come in and see us. We are available at the end of the day once the children have been safely returned to their parents.

Best wishes,

The Infants Team