



9th September 2016

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome back to Briary for what is bound to be yet another exciting year! Our Year One and Two children have been settling well into their new classes, which has been most pleasing, and we are all looking forward to meeting our Reception children on Monday for their first day of school.

We have introduced home visits for families of new entrants this year and would like to thank these families for their warm welcomes this week. It has been lovely for our Reception staff to get to know you better.

The Infants consists of six classes across Reception, Year One and Year Two. The staff in these classes are as follows:

Reception		Year 1		Year 2	
Elmer	Marmaduke	Donaldson	Jeffers	Ahlberg	Carle
Mrs Boughton Mrs Batey	Miss McAuley	Mrs Laffey	Mrs Gregory	Mrs James (Team Leader)	Mrs O'Sullivan
Mrs Kelly Miss Howlett	Mrs Haveron	Mrs Wotton Miss Kearney	Miss Burns Miss Lukehurst	Mrs Dengate Mrs Jordan Mr Hewitt	Mrs Donaghy Mrs Kreeger
Mrs Heppeler - Speech and Language					

Our staff have been busy over the summer revamping the classrooms and shared areas, all of which look bright and cheerful ready for a new year. Classrooms have been kitted out with new furniture too, including book cases, display stands, tables and chairs. All of this makes for a great atmosphere for learning and we are raring to go!

In the Infants, children are encouraged to read regularly at home with an adult. 'Regularly' means at least three times a week and ideally, they should practise daily during these first years in school. When your child reads with you at home, please record it each time in the new reading record books. The children who read at least three times a week receive a star with which they will be able to earn prizes!

The children will often be asked to find out about the topics we are covering in school and many of them enjoy doing this at home. All Infant children have a 'Learning Journal' book that they may use to tell us about things they do.

In Years One and Two, homework will be set on a Friday to be completed by the end of the following week. 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.

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					
Elmer	Marmaduke	Donaldson	Jeffers	Ahlberg	Carle
		Tuesdays &	Mondays - Swimming	Wednesdays - Multi-skills Fridays - Dance	
		Thursdays - Games			

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 One - 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 focus on primary skills such as capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. In science we are learning about materials and their properties. In RE we will look at the childhood of Jesus and in PHSE we will explore feelings and relationships. During maths we will be looking at number and place value, addition and subtraction up to 10, and measures including money, length and height.

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, measures and fractions to solve problems. 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.

