



# AUTUMN

13<sup>th</sup> September 2022

*Nurturing each and all. Guiding, Trusting, Inspiring and Celebrating*

Dear Families,

Welcome back! I hope you have all had a lovely Summer break. It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back. We would like to extend a special welcome to all our new families; we hope you will soon become immersed in our lovely school community.

We are greatly encouraged by the way all the children have returned to school and how quickly they are all settling into their new classroom routines. It has been a very calm start to the new school year and we are very proud of all the children; they are a credit to you.

We have been busy planning and preparing for this term and there is lots to be done! Charterville and Cotswold class are learning all about Brazil, Lovell are being transported back to Anglo-Saxon times, Dovecote are taking a trip down Memory Lane, Wenrisc will be finding out about some of the amazing inventors who have shaped our world and Little Minster will be starting the term bird watching, particularly owl spotting! Termly topic webs will be on your child's class page on the website shortly. Please keep an eye on the diary for future dates and activities.



## Queen Elizabeth II

On Friday, we held a very special Inspirational assembly, which was dedicated to the life of Queen Elizabeth II. We came together to reflect and to celebrate her life. This week we will be compiling a book to mark the occasion. Please be reminded that school will not be open on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September, as it has been declared a bank holiday to mark her funeral.

### Our Value

This term our value is *friendship*; always a good one to start the new year with! Throughout the school, we will be discussing and thinking about the importance of friendship and how we need to work at it and to accept that friendships change and challenges can arise.

## School Council Elections

During the week beginning 19<sup>th</sup> September, we will be holding School Council elections. Each class will elect a representative to the council by secret ballot. Being a school councillor is a very responsible position. It is a chance to play an important part in our school community.

Pupils, who would like to run for School Council, will need to prepare and deliver a speech to their class, who will then cast their votes. Class teachers will be organising this and Mrs Tudge will be supporting the School Council throughout the year.

**Respect, Honesty, Friendship, Compassion, Thankfulness, Wisdom**

## Macmillan Coffee

We will be holding our annual (pre-Covid) Macmillan Coffee morning on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> and Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September. This is a chance for you to join us to support the work of the Macmillan nurses, whilst having the opportunity to visit your child's class and to meet their teachers. We will be inviting Key Stage 2 parents/carers to join us on the afternoon of Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> and Key Stage 1 and Reception parents/carers on the afternoon of Friday 30<sup>th</sup>. Further details will follow.

## Communication

If you have a concern, or need to speak to your child's class teacher, then please contact us through the following channels:

- Messages can be relayed via the staff member on the gate in the morning
- The best route, during the school day, is to email the school office. Messages can be passed on to teachers, who will then get back to you when they are not teaching. Please email: [office.3125@st-kenelms.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3125@st-kenelms.oxon.sch.uk)
- You can phone on 01993 775394 and leave a message on the answerphone.

## Drop Off and Pick Up

Please can I request that you park considerately and, if at all possible, walk to school to help reduce the traffic outside school.

## Medication

If your child needs to have medication during the school day, you are required to complete a consent form to enable us to administer it. Please email the office to obtain a consent form when required. We are unable to administer medicine unless it is in its original packaging.

## Extra-Curricular Clubs

Lunchtime sports clubs will resume this week. Mr Smith will be leading these and the children are able to take up a place within school. This term, there will be table tennis, handball, hockey and football. After school clubs are now full, however, there are some places still available in KS2 Newspaper club should your child wish to join.

## Lunchtime Supervisor Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a lunchtime supervisor. If this is a role that you might be interested in please visit our website or speak to Mrs Clapham in the office.

Outdoor learning



Charterville Class



## Attendance

As a school, we have a duty of care to safeguard all our children. Ensuring children attend school regularly is part of the safeguarding duty for both school and parents/carers and absences **MUST** be recorded in registers with reasons for the child not attending each day. If your child is absent, please notify the school office each day that your child is away, either by email or telephone. All absences will be followed up. Please ensure that your contact details are up to date.

We want all our children to strive for 100% attendance.

Since September 2015, the government classifies a child to be a persistent absentee if their attendance is 90% or below.

Attendance Percentage	Number of sessions missed	Equivalent number of days missed	Equivalent number of weeks missed	Equivalent number of lessons missed
100%	0	0	0	0
95%	19	9 ½	2	48
90%	38	19	4	95
85%	57	28 ½	6	143
80%	76	38	8	190
75%	95	47 ½	9 ½	238
70%	114	57	11 ½	285

### Holidays:

- A 2-week holiday means you can't get more than 94.7% attendance that year, and you miss 100 lessons... That's a lot to catch up on!
- If a holiday isn't requested, or is refused permission by the school, parents/carers could be issued a Penalty Notice if they still take their child on holiday.
- Penalty Notices are a fine of £60 per parent per child, which rises to £120 if not paid in 4 weeks. If the £100 is not paid after a further 2 weeks, the parents could be taken to court.

### Punctuality:

- Missing 15 minutes of school every day adds up to 9 whole days throughout the year!

Best wishes,

