

Friday 2nd October 2020

Dear Parents,

We would like to thank you for your support over the last 4 weeks. Now our youngest children have started school, all our year groups are in full operation and procedures put in place to reduce the risk of Covid 19 transmission are working well. With forever changing information in the news, it is important that everyone continues to adhere to the guidelines - remembering 2m distancing, practising good hand hygiene, keeping children at home if they are symptomatic and ensuring other family members self-isolate until a negative test result is received. By doing this, we can continue to keep each other safe. Thank you.

### **'Hello Yellow' - World Mental Health day**

Next Friday 9th October is World Mental Health Awareness Day. The theme is 'Hello Yellow' and we invite children to come to school, if they wish, wearing something yellow in addition to their uniform. At a time when talking about our wellbeing and emotional health is so very important, we will be focusing on some activities to get children talking and sharing their thoughts and feelings. Anything yellow will do - yellow socks, a banana hat, a yellow hair ribbon, T -shirt or a scarf - be as inventive as you like. We are using the day to heighten awareness and will not be fundraising on this occasion.



### **Harvest - Friday 16th October**

As part of our Harvest celebrations, we will again be supporting 'The Food Cupboard' based at St Mary's Church in Bletchley. They are in need of non-perishable items - all of which goes to support families in Milton Keynes who find themselves in difficult circumstances. They particularly require tins - curry, meatballs, ravioli etc. - meals in a tin; cereals; tinned vegetables or fruit; jam and rice pudding. All classes will be doing their own Harvest celebrations in their bubbles. We will be setting up a Harvest display on the playground at the bottom of the path on 16.10.20. Donations should be placed there on arrival to school that morning. Thank you.

### **Price & Buckland School Uniform**

Just to let you know, the estimated delivery for school uniform is currently 3 to 4 weeks. Price & Buckland are extremely busy as production ceased for three to four months this year so everyone is ordering now. Usually most of their orders are dispatched in June and July. Thank you for your patience.

### **Parent Tours for Foundation and Nursery starters September 2021**

Due to the current circumstances, we are unable to do parent tours for 2021 starters during school hours. However, we will welcome parents for a visit after school providing face coverings are worn at all times. These tours will be limited to 6 parents and will last approximately 45 minutes.

#### **Tours will take place on the following days and times: -**

Tuesday 6th and 13th October at 4:15 p.m;

Friday 23rd October at 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. (This is an INSET day);

Thursday 5th, 12th and 19th November at 4:15 p.m;

Tuesday 24th November and Tuesday 1st December also at 4:15 p.m.

If you know of someone with a child due to start school in September 2021, please encourage them to phone the school office and book a place on one of our tours. Thank you.

## Parent Consultation Evenings

Parent consultation evenings will take place in the last week of this half term - the week beginning 19th October. These will be online consultations. The usual parents evening invite will be sent out next week and this will enable you to sign up for an appointment. Please select the day and time required and an invite will be automatically sent to you. If you are not able to take an online appointment, we will organise telephone consultations instead. The booking system will go live on Tuesday 6th October.

## Safer Internet and Social Media Use

We are aware that many of our KS2 children have phones and devices which they use to communicate with their friends. As children have come back together, inevitably, we have had to deal with some situations where comments made have been upsetting or hurtful. Online safety is part of the taught curriculum throughout the school and focuses on teaching children how to communicate in a responsible and safe manner. Please do have these discussions with your child at home and keep regular checks on their online activity and communications. Thank you

## Little Lives -Y6

In case anyone missed the total raised for MK Hospital Little Lives by last year's Y6, it was an incredible £3981.90. This money is being put towards the November 'Big Give' campaign which means the money donated will be doubled! An amazing £7963.80 will therefore be going towards the purchase of a special BabyLeo incubator. Thank you to everyone who supported our children to achieve such amazing results. I hope we will still be able to do our usual Grow £1 challenge with our Y6's in 2021.

## Sports Achievements

Last week, our children in KS2 took part in a fitness challenge in their PE sessions with Nick. All results were submitted to the Schools Partnership and here are the results. What a great performance!

Well done Giles Brook!

Schools Leaderboard for Participation		Winners of Fun Fitness Challenge			
Name of School	% Participation	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Oxley Park	100.00	1		3	3
Two Mile Ash	100.00		3	2	2
Webber Independent	100.00				
Long Meadow	99.58				
Giles Brook Primary	97.05	2	1	1	1
Emerson Valley	96.20				
Orchard Academy	90.67				
New Bradwell School	90.23	3	2		

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## E-Scooters

Please see the attached flyer from Thames Valley Police regarding the use of e-scooters.

## Parking

A reminder to park considerately in the car park at the front of the school and not to park across the double bays. If you park in front of someone, please do not leave your car unattended as you will block someone in. We encourage you to make the most of walking or cycling to school or to use the car park at the Pavilion and walk from there. Thank you.

Finally, Mrs. Williamson and I accompanied our Y1 children to Howe Park Woods earlier this week. The children had an amazing time pond dipping, looking for insects, sorting, grouping and classifying their findings - all of which has added to their learning in school. What stood out the most was their kindness to each other, their manners and their excellent behaviour. Well done to all our Crickets and Grasshoppers - just what we like to see at Giles Brook!

Best wishes and have a good weekend

*Angie*

Angie Bailey  
Deputy Headteacher/Head of School