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Dear Parents

Baby News!

The newsletter this week starts with some exciting news!

We are pleased to announce that Miss Taylor has given birth to a beautiful, healthy baby boy named Alfie! He was born last night and weighs 8lb 8 oz. We wish the whole family our huge congratulations!

Knex – Owls Class

Owls Class had a great morning on Tuesday. They were tasked with creating a castle that had to include a moving mechanism. Zachary CM and Oscar S won the competition between Owls class and will be entered into a virtual final that will take place before the end of the term. Pictures are on Owls class dojo for parents to see.

Classes for September

Due to our rising numbers of children applying for places in Reception this year and in previous years, the leadership team and governors have been busy working closely with the local Authority over the last few months to decide on the best structure for the next few years. There are a number of complexities that we are faced with including the premises and fluctuating pupil numbers on roll. To this end, the following decision has been reached which will be in place for the next 2 years:

- A part time Year 1 teacher will be appointed to teach Phonics, Reading, Writing and Maths each morning. This will mean that the Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children will all be taught as separate year groups every morning for the core subjects. This means that they will be in much smaller class sizes for the mornings.
- The Y1 children will be either based within Rabbits class or Squirrels for each afternoon so the class sizes will be as follows:
- Rabbits (23 reception children + 7 Y1 children) = 30 children
- Squirrels (22 Y2 children + 9 Y1 children) = 31 children
- We will be converting our previous ICT suite into a Y1 classroom ready for September.

The KS2 classes next year remain unaffected with 30 in Hedgehogs and 27 in Owls. We will continue to closely monitor the situation with our numbers and make future adaptations as required. It is however, extremely positive that our youngest children in Early Years and KS1 will benefit from being taught in their smaller groups for English and Maths. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Non-school uniform day

Next week is a national Mental Health Awareness Week. We, along with other schools have decided to have a non-school uniform on Friday 14th May. If your child would like to wear their own clothes, please bring a donation. We are collecting for 'Young Minds' which is a charity that supports children and young peoples' mental health.

Residential trips

All advice and guidelines indicate that school residential trips **are** allowed to go ahead from 17th May. We are well within a 'safe' zone with ours falling in July. Please see payment schedules on 'parent pay'. We are really looking forward to taking the children away and would encourage that in May half term and onwards into June, children have a sleepover at Grandparents and/or friends to gain some confidence in being away from home overnight. We will be in touch with more details nearer the time.

Hedgehogs: Thursday 1st - Friday 2nd July

Owls: Wednesday 7th - Friday 9th July

Covid 19

As we start to see some of the national restrictions get lifted, please continue to follow all guidance and let us know immediately if you or one of your family members develops symptoms. Please see the website for information.

Have a great weekend and we look forward to seeing everyone next week!

Kindest regards



Mrs Lucy Halling
Head teacher