

**CHARLTON KINGS INFANTS' SCHOOL
LYEFIELD ROAD EAST
CHARLTON KINGS**

20th July 2017

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that you are enjoying this beautiful weather and that you are looking forward to a relaxing summer break. I can't quite believe that we are at the end of the academic year already, it only seems like yesterday that I was writing my first letter to you as your new Head teacher back in January!! I would like to thank each and every one of you, alongside our fabulous staff and children for welcoming me so warmly to Charlton Kings. I have truly loved every moment of our journey together so far and I continue to be very excited about the future of CKIS.

Since January, we have made a number of developments which have had a significant impact upon increasing our children's levels of involvement and responsibility. These have included:

- Reviewing and re-defining our School vision and British values, and introducing a termly school value.
- Introducing a school council (made up of representatives from each class and year group) and appointing Eco warriors in each class.
- Introducing Y1 and Y2 playtime buddies.
- Making changes to our lunchtimes and the appointment of Y2 lunchtime monitors.
- Introducing coloured teams and tokens to reinforce positive play time behaviour.

We have also made key changes to improve teaching and learning throughout the school, including:

- Reviewing and re-designing our curriculum and our cross-curricular learning opportunities.
- Joining the Balcarras Teaching School Alliance and the 'GLOWMaths Hub' – we are now part of a local maths teaching and learning research group and have already made significant changes to our planning and teaching of maths throughout the school.
- Auditing and purchasing new maths resources for all classrooms.
- Reviewing teaching and learning of handwriting and spelling and implementing planned changes to improve outcomes for all children.
- Introducing new monitoring and assessment systems.
- Introducing 'Continuous Provision' in YR.
- Improving the outdoor learning environments for all children.

During the next academic year we will be focussing upon a number of key priorities, including:

- Introducing 'Continuous Provision' into year 1 to enhance the deep level thinking and learning demonstrated by our young children as they move into the National Curriculum.
- Introducing our new cursive handwriting programme, 'Letter-join' throughout the school.
- Embedding our reviewed curriculum, including our 'Mathematics Mastery' curriculum.
- Reviewing our home learning policy and introducing further opportunities for parental involvement.
- Ongoing development of the outdoor learning environments for all children.
- Re-accreditation of our 'Eco Schools' title and working towards our 'Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning' accreditation.

Home learning opportunities this summer break:

Please see the year group newsletters on year 1 and year 2 home pages of our website to find out about the home learning projects for YR children moving to Y1 and Y1 children moving to Y2.

In addition, why not have a go at these challenges:

Summer Reading Challenge: The Summer Reading Challenge this year is 'Animal Agents'. Don't forget to sign up at the local library!!

OAKS (One Act of Kindness): A separate letter has been sent out to all children to discuss this project and how you can get involved at home during the Summer holidays.

Staff news:

At the end of this term we say a sad farewell to Mrs Stoa who has worked at CKIS for five years, to take up a permanent post at Berkhamstead Nursery School. We also say goodbye to Mrs Pockett who has been working in Year 1 since Easter. We wish them both every success in their new ventures. We look forward to welcoming Mrs Koller and Mrs Tyler back from maternity leave. Mrs Kear continues to be on maternity leave. We also welcome Mrs Duverger-De-Cuy who will be joining the Year 2 children to support interventions for SEND pupils. Mrs Ballard is continuing with PPA (Preparation, Planning and Assessment) in year R and Mrs Fox and Mrs Morgan will provide PPA cover in Years 1 and 2 respectively. Here's how our school is set up for the new academic year:

| Team: | Lead practitioner: | Key person and Assistants: |
|---------------------|---|--|
| Kindergarten | Mrs Howie | Mrs Fulvio-Mason, Mrs Cuciurean, Mrs Tacey, Mrs Russell, Mrs Cowell, Mrs Coombe |
| | Class teacher: | Teaching Assistants: |
| Reception | Miss Parsons (Red class) Miss Maclachlan (Yellow class) Miss Muskett (Blue class) | Miss Bubb Mrs Rowe Mrs Roberts |
| Year 1 | Mrs Jones and Mrs Fox (Green class) Mrs Tyler and Mr Bracey (Purple class) Miss Weyman (Orange class) | Mrs Nevin and Mrs Herbert/Miss Sriven/Mrs Fulvio-Mason Mrs Ralph Mrs Driscoll and Mrs Angrave/Mrs Wiggins |
| Year 2 | Mr Owens (Magenta class) Mrs Koller and Mrs Morgan (Indigo class) Mrs Hunt and Mrs Tayler (Violet class) | Mrs Pritchard and Mr Mason Mrs Jeffree and Mrs Buttgerit-Simpkin Mrs Tayler / Mrs Miller and Mrs Duverger-De-Cuy |

Attendance:

We are very proud of all of our children and our outstanding attendance levels. As a school we have 97.6% attendance this year. We have celebrated this amazing achievement with all of our children and recognise that some children have had 100% attendance this year – well done! To ensure inclusivity, we have chosen to celebrate every child's attendance and effort as a whole school team, rather than praising children with the production of individual certificates.

School lunches:

Despite the government indicating school lunches may have been reviewed prior to the general election, they continue to be free for all Infant children. We will continue to provide delicious school lunches from next term. It has come to our attention that many children are indicating that they would like to choose what they would prefer to eat on a daily basis and in fact, sometimes change their mind or fancy trying something new (particularly when their friends are having it!!) We have therefore decided that from September, those children choosing to have a school meal, will be able to indicate their choice for the week on a Monday morning with their class teacher (for the purposes of giving the kitchen some indication of numbers). However, they will be able to select the food they wish to eat on a daily basis once they see it at the servery. We believe that this will give our children increased independence as well as reducing our waste in the long term. Please bear with us as we implement this new system (we will of course ensure that any hic ups are addressed in a timely manner!!!) If your child has medical or dietary needs, you will of

course still be able to book your child's lunch in the usual manner. If you have any queries or questions regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact us. The Autumn menu will be sent home today and is on our website for you to have a look at with your children.

Important dates for term 1 and the family diary:

We have planned important diary dates for the 2017-18 school year and will share these fully with you in September. We will also introduce a number of new opportunities for parents/carers to be further involved in our school life on a more regular basis. In particular, we are introducing family assemblies where each class will invite their parents/carers to a whole school assembly three times a year. During the assembly, children in that class will share some of their key learning for that term. This will replace our previous class assemblies.

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| September | 4 th | | Inset day (school closed for children) |
| | 5 th | | Inset day (school closed for children) |
| | 6 th | 8.50 am | Term 1 starts |
| | 6 th – 8 th | | Kindergarten 'Stay and Play' |
| | 11 th – 15 th | | Home visits for YR children |
| | 19 th | 9.10 am | YR Induction |
| | | 6.00 pm | Y1 Class visit – Getting to know you and handwriting focus |
| | 20 th | 9.10 am | Repeat of Y1 Class visit |
| | | 6.00 pm | Y2 Class visit – Getting to know you and handwriting focus |
| | 22 nd | 2.30 pm | Repeat of Y2 Class visit |
| | 29 th | 2.30 pm | Magenta class family assembly (Magenta parents invited to our weekly family assembly) |
| | | | Indigo class family assembly (Indigo parents invited to our weekly family assembly) |
| October | 6 th | 2.30 pm | Violet class family assembly (Violet parents invited to our weekly family assembly) |
| | 9 th | | School portrait photos |
| | 10 th | | School portrait photos |
| | 13 th | 2.30 pm | Green class family assembly (Green class parents invited to our weekly family assembly) |
| | 17 th | 9.30 am | Whole school Harvest celebration |
| | 20 th | 2.30 pm | Orange class family assembly (Orange class parents invited to our weekly family assembly) |
| | 23 rd -27 th | | Half Term week |
| | 30 th | 8.50 am | Term 2 starts |
| | | | Further class family assemblies are planned in term 2! |

We continue to be keen to capture your views on the achievements and the success of our school and your thoughts on priorities for improvement. Please do continue to jot any thoughts down and put it in our comments box in the foyer. Next academic year, we will write and publish a monthly school newsletter and our governors will continue to write and publish their regular newsletter.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a relaxing summer break and a chance to re-charge the batteries in preparation for the exciting school year ahead!

Best wishes



Mrs Katie James

Head teacher