

New Close News

Friday 8th September, 2017

Executive Head—Mr James Evans
Head Teacher - Miss Jane Brown

It has been a pleasure to join New Close School this week as Executive Headteacher and I look forward to working with you over the coming years. I have enjoyed seeing the children back this week and hearing what they have done during the summer break along with seeing them back in the classroom and engaged in their learning. My philosophy is to have an open and honest relationship with parents. If you have any concerns regarding the school or your child then please see me at the beginning or end of the day or make an appointment with me through reception.

Due to the changes taking place at the school we have some vacancies for governors. The role of a governor is to support and challenge the leadership so that every child receives a high quality education experience at the school. I would also like to invite any parent volunteers the opportunity to come into school and support in the classroom or at after school clubs. If you are interested in supporting the school in either of these roles then please contact me for an informal discussion.

Mr Evans

Homework

We see homework as an extension of your child's learning which helps them to consolidate work that has been covered in class. Some of the benefits for doing homework are listed below.

1. It improves your child's thinking and memory.
2. It helps your child develop positive study skills and habits that will serve him or her well throughout life.
3. Homework encourages your child to use time wisely.
4. It teaches your child to work independently.
5. Homework teaches your child to take responsibility for his or her work.
6. It allows your child to review and practice what has been covered in class.

It has been agreed by the staff that homework should be set in key stage 1 and 2 on a regular basis for English and maths. The time allocation is:

Key stage 1: 10 – 20 minutes/ week

Key stage 2: 20 – 40 minutes/ week

If your child is struggling to understand the homework then please contact the member of staff who has set it by adding a note to the homework or at the end of the day.



Outdoor Activity Day



Following the great success of our Activity Day in the Summer Term we will be holding another such day this coming Wednesday (13th). In the morning, KS2 children will be taking part in team building exercises, archery, den building, fire lighting and toasting marshmallows. In the afternoon FS2 and KS1 will be doing the same activities with the exception of archery. **A PERMISSION FORM WILL BE COMING HOME TODAY FOR COMPLETION AND RETURN ON MONDAY PLEASE.**

The children will need to come to school in non-uniform that is suitable for them to do the above activities and that you don't mind getting dirty. If it is showery, the event will still take place so please make sure that your child brings a waterproof coat to school.

Parent Information Meetings

On Monday 18th September we will be holding Parent Information meetings. Your child's teacher will give a brief talk about the curriculum, expectations, homework, etc for the year groups in that class. It will be an opportunity for you to meet the teacher and ask any questions. The first session will be at 15:15 and the second session will start at 17:00. Each session should last for about 30 minutes.



Key dates for this term:

18th September—Parent information meetings at 15:15 and 17:00

18th October—School closed to pupils due to TD Day.

18th December—Parents' evening

Rabbit and Hedgehog classes Sharing Assemblies (Parents welcome) - 22nd September & 17th November—14.30 start.

Squirrel, Otter and Fox classes Sharing Assemblies (Parents welcome) - 6th October & 24th November—14.30 start.

STARS OF THE WEEK



Robert

Leni

Zacc

Samridhi

Riley



For the attention of all parents

**Will your child be transferring to secondary school
in September 2018?**

You must apply for a secondary school place.

Apply online at www.wiltshire.gov.uk

The deadline for all applications is

31st October 2017

to request our booklet -

“Finding a secondary school place in Wiltshire” or for
a paper application form contact customer services on
01225 713010.

All paper applications must be returned to the School
Admissions Team at County Hall,
Trowbridge.

For the attention of all parents

**Will your child be four years old before
September 2018?**

You must apply for a primary school place.

Apply online at www.wiltshire.gov.uk

The deadline for all applications is

15th January 2018

to request our booklet -

“Finding a primary school place in Wiltshire” or for
a paper application form contact customer services
on 01225 713010.

All paper applications must be returned to the
School Admissions Team at County Hall,
Trowbridge.

Register for free school meals to help our school

If your child is eligible for free school meals, it's worth registering them even if they're not going to have the school lunch. This is because schools receive a 'pupil premium' - an extra payment of £1320 for each eligible child to support learning. **Registering might also give you extra help for things like PE kit and school trips.**

Even if your child is already receiving a Universal Infant Free School Meal (because they are in reception, year 1 or year 2), if you are receiving qualifying benefits the Government will give New Close School the Pupil Premium.

For the school and your child to benefit from this money we need to know that you are receiving a qualifying benefit (see below). Please complete the claim form which is available from the school office or you can apply online to Wiltshire Council <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-free-school-meals>.

The qualifying benefits are:

- Income Support
- Job Seeker's Allowance (income-based)
- Employment and Support Allowance (income-related)
- support under part six of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit - providing you are NOT entitled to Working Tax Credit and your family's annual income (as assessed by HMRC) is not more than £16,190 (as at 6 April 2012)
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment you may receive for a further four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact the school office.

FREE and SUBSIDISED COOL MILK

A reminder to all parents/guardians that school is able to provide free milk each day to all children under five and to those children entitled to statutory free school meals. Milk can also be provided to children aged five or over at a subsidised cost.

For further information please visit www.coolmilk.com or ask in the school Office.



E-Newsletter

In an effort to reduce our carbon footprint, we are hoping to send as many newsletters by e-mail as possible. If you are able to receive your newsletter by e-mail, and haven't already done so, please contact the office. For those families who do not receive the newsletter by e-mail we will continue to send out paper copies.

Office Hours

Please be aware that the School Office is staffed between 8.45am and 3.15pm.

