



Dear Parents,

Welcome back for the Summer Term. I hope you all had a wonderful Easter break—the children seem to have come back incredibly happy and keen to learn which is really positive.

Our value this half term is 'self-control' and this week, each class will have read a beautifully written story called 'I really want to shout' by Simon Philip. This story was one of those purchased by our amazing community for our new library. It's greatly appreciated! The library itself will be gaining momentum over the coming weeks with the library cards for our children being delivered soon and the management system being set up this week. Lights have arrived and we await our furniture.

Once again I want to thank you all for your efforts over the past year or so and I feel really excited about what's to come in the future. On that note, I will soon be sending out a letter to all parents regarding 'School Trips' this year. I am being very cautious about this in general and as a result, I am looking at having one or two 'activities' days during the Summer term. The first one is planned for Friday 21st May and confirmed so far are Showtime Circus (circus skills workshops) and 'The Problem Solving Company' (team building and problem solving activities). I am awaiting a couple of other possible activities for the day, so watch this space! I hope this is something you will get behind and support through the usual means of a suggested voluntary contribution, which needless to say will be of a significantly lower cost than the usual 'trips'

because we aren't travelling anywhere (no coach costs!).

Have a good weekend!

Andrew Stear

## Staffing Update

We would like to welcome Mrs Anna Blacklock to the teaching staff. Anna has been with us for a few months so is very familiar with the children and staff as she takes over as the Cherry class teacher. We would also like to extend a warm welcome to Mrs Sylwia Petrovskyy who started as a midday Supervisor this week.

## Diary Dates

Mon 03.05.21	Bank Holiday
13.05.21	The Pied Piper Theatre Zoom performance
Fri 28.05.21	Inset Day
Mon 31.05.21—Friday 04.06.21	Half term
Wed 21.07.21	Last day of term (early closure)

## Star of the Week 01.04.21

### Beech

Jack: For being a great team player and brightening up everyone's day with your positive attitude.

Fred: For being a kind and thoughtful friend and always looking out for others.

### Cherry

Lucy: For working hard in all subjects and always being kind and helpful

Ellis: For working very hard in English and some really super work in Phonics.

### Elm

Sam: For being a fantastic team player and brightening up everyone's day with your super smile and positivity.

Ivy: For always listening and being a great role model. You're a kind and thoughtful member of Team Elm!

### Lime

Marley: For inspiring science work on how plants might be grown on Mars.

Maddie: For always trying her best and being a fantastic Year Two role model.

### Oak

Orla: For playing so well with her friends and showing kindness toward others. Also for recognising her letter sounds and trying really hard to read CVC words.

Thea: For being a positive and happy member of Oak Class and always trying super hard with all of her learning activities.

Anna: for a super week and giving her best effort to all the learning activities. Also, for solving practical addition problems.

Malachi: For amazing alien drawings and a fantastic try at hearing and then writing the letter sounds when creating his '@Have you seen this alien?' poster.

### Willow

Summer: For her increased focus, superb storytelling and making superb choices.

Yasmine: For always being ready to learn and being a superb role model to her peers.

## The Big Ask - A new National Survey of Children

The Big Ask, the largest ever consultation with children aged 4 to 17 in England, was launched by the new Children's Commissioner this week. It aims to find out children's concerns and aspirations about the future, so that we can put children at the heart of our country's recovery from the pandemic. The results will help the Children's Commissioner identify the barriers preventing children from reaching their potential, put forward solutions and set ambitious goals for the country to achieve. The survey will be available to complete online until May 19th at <http://thebigask.uk/>

## Milford School Bird Box

Milford School are once again taking part in the See Nature project and so we have installed a bird box with a live camera just behind Reception near the school pond. Over the Easter holidays we have seen a pair of Blue Tits beginning to busily build their nest in the box! So far, it is looking very cosy with feathers, moss and leaves but let's keep watching as hopefully they will lay their eggs in there very soon!

You can view the live cam on <http://www.seenature.org.uk/schools/milford-school/> The website also has some useful facts and activities to try such as making Tasty Oat Crumble for your garden birds. Let us know what you see in your garden too.



## **A fantastic start to the term in Reception!**

In Reception we have started an exciting new topic called Paws, Claws, Feathers and Fins! We have begun the topic by learning about British animals such as hedgehogs, rabbits, moles, badgers and more! On Monday, Oak class even discovered that Oaky had built his very own ~~wood~~ in our classroom! We have been reading about these different animals, creating our own fact posters, drawing foxes and using clay to create prickly hedgehogs. Did you know that a baby badger is called a cub and a baby squirrel is called a kitten? Ask us about some of the facts we know.







In maths we have been focusing on 'teen' numbers with number hunts, counting activities and finding numbers more and less than one another.

We love to keep active in Reception and so we have enjoyed playing and learning outside to enjoy the sunny weather. One of our favourite games is Duck, Duck, Goose!



We can't wait to learn more about different types of animals such as safari wildlife animals, birds (we'll be watching our bird box closely), sea creatures, farm animals and pets. There will be some very special surprise visitors arriving soon which we will share with you all in a few weeks.

