8th October 2020

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

**Parents’ evenings**

Although we’d all prefer face to face meetings these telephone consultations appear to be going well. Thank you for your support.

**Settling in**

Our children are now well and truly used to school arrangements and I have been particularly impressed with them this week when the weather has been grotty. I know you too have appreciated our efforts to put siblings together when it has rained in order that you, and more importantly, our youngest children haven’t had to wait in the rain for longer than necessary. We do not however, plan to make this an ongoing arrangement as having some juniors miss out on the last 20 minutes of their lessons will not be in their best interests.

We all know that the mental and emotional health of children was / is a national concern and returning to school was essential to have children socialise and learn once again in order to address this and get back to normality. Although things have been generally superb we have had to remind some children how to speak to each other and to staff politely and in the last two weeks we have seen an increased amount of “silliness” and low level disruptive behaviour from some children as the novelty of restarting school and seeing friends has worn off a little.

As always we will be in touch with you personally if we have concerns but I have spoken to a few classes about being respectful in the way they speak to school staff, about everyone being responsible for their own actions, supportive of one another’s individual needs and particularly not over reacting and trying to get someone else in trouble if they have only done a little thing.

Our children will tell you that “resilience” is one of my most used words and that in school this means not only being positive and trying your best even if you get something wrong but also that, whilst big things must be reported and will be dealt with, not everything is the end of the world and in life we need to learn to manage some things without teacher or parental intervention and escalation.

I trust you agree with me on this, we will always act upon school issues whenever necessary but not everything needs to be “the end of the world” and your reaction to something your child tells you has a huge impact upon their ongoing independence and development of resilience; essential to positive mental health.

**Tuck shop**

A reminder that if you wish your child to have a tuck shop treat then 50p or a multiple of 50p should be sent in a clearly labelled envelope tomorrow; child’s name, year group and teacher please, we do not have change in school to send home.

**Reception 2021**

Please find attached a flier for this Saturday’s Open Day for prospective new Reception children for September 2021.

I would be grateful if you could share this with any friends or family you have who may have a youngster ready to start school next year.

As numbers will need to be limited if you have a younger sibling of a child you already have in school, and you know that you will be sending him or her here I would appreciate it if you think twice about whether to take up a place on this day. There will be plenty of opportunities for next year’s intake to visit Charles Darwin in the spring and summer.

As always thank you for your support.

Adam Croft