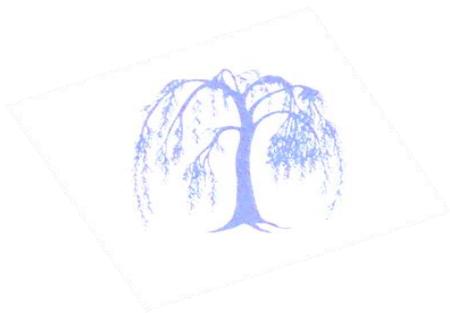


IPPLEPEN PRIMARY SCHOOL



Friday 13th September 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Ipplepen Primary! The children have settled in really well and are showing fantastic learning behaviours already at such an early stage. Thank you also for making me feel so welcome as we start our new journey together.

Thank you for ensuring your child is in the playground by 8.45am and coming in independently. Even though this can be a struggle when your child first starts school, we would like to thank you for your support as we know it helps the children settle faster into the school routine.

The weather at this time of year is unpredictable. Please make sure your child attends school everyday with a jumper, coat, suncream and a Summer/Winter hat (unless their coat has a hood). The weather can be deceiving with a mix of sunshine but as the children spend a great amount of time outside for their learning, it is important they are warm. Please make sure each individual item is labelled - if it can be put down or taken off, it must be labelled.

At the end of each week, we take part in a whole school Celebration Assembly. As well as celebrating the House Team house points, there will also be two Stars of the Week. These will be children who have shown themselves to be a great learner over the week or demonstrated positive behaviours.

Across the year, we aim to provide the children with an additional experience each term. This could be in the form of a trip or an external provider coming into school to offer another dimension to the learning. We aim to keep the cost of each 'experience' to a maximum of £10 per child. We are very lucky that as part of the Federation we have access to minibuses to keep trip costs to a minimum but there are occasions when these are not available and the cost of a coach has to be included with the price, bringing it closer to the £10 mark. We will endeavour to keep costs as low as possible and will inform you in advance each term of the exact cost but wanted to give an indication at this stage of the possible financial implications throughout the year.

Our topic this term starts with 'Who Am I?'. We will look at similarities and differences between people and families and encourage the children to share their personal experiences of home life. In line with early years practise, as the children's interests develop as will the topics we follow. We will cover relevant learning through their interests and a play-based curriculum. We will commence phonics in a few weeks. The children will learn the sound for the written letter and begin to recognise these within words. They will use these sounds to begin to read and write. In maths, we will focus on place value; counting up and back to 20, placing the numbers in order and counting an irregular arrangement. The full Autumn term overview of planning for reception is on our website should you wish to look in more detail at the coverage.

To support your child's learning, we would ask that you read with your child as often as possible. Your child has now come home with a reading book and reading record. Could you please write any comments about your child's reading in each evening in your child's reading record and return it to school each morning. We do appreciate all your support in helping your child with their reading. It really does make a difference.

If for any reason you feel the need to see your child's teacher, please feel free to do so. Although it is difficult to talk at length in the morning, we are always happy to arrange a time after school, when the teacher can give you more time. Any messages can be passed via your child's reading record or the adult on gate duty at the beginning and end of the day.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Clarke
Reception Teacher