



Dear Parents and Carers,

## Welcome Back To Cliffe Woods!

# WELCOME BACK!

It has been an exciting start to the new academic year at Cliffe Woods and lovely to see the children looking so smart and keen to start the new year. It has been a pleasure getting to know all the classes and seeing the fantastic learning that is happening already!

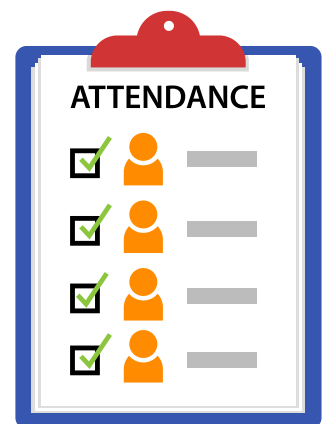
Our new Reception children in Ducklings and Puggles classes have settled really well and we are looking forward to welcoming Year R parents to stay for lunch on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September.



## Attendance

Our attendance for the start of the year has been really high, and I have been really impressed. Please remember to contact the office on the morning of any absence. We will be celebrating attendance regularly this year and we will be sharing more about this in future newsletters.

We thank everyone for their support in ensuring children are in school on time, every day.



# Summer Reading Challenges at Medway Libraries

A reminder that there is still time to take part in the FREE Summer Reading Challenge led by Medway libraries, which finishes on Saturday 13th September! Rewards for primary school children include stickers, a bookmark, a badge, a certificate, and a medal. You can visit any Medway library to take part- any library book counts, including graphic novels such as Dog Man and Bunny vs Monkey, short books, non-fiction books, ebooks, and stories read together.

A reading habit significantly improves children's chances of future success and academic achievement, wellbeing and mental health. Reading with your child can also improve family bonding, by promoting quality time together.

Mrs Robins will be on the look out soon for this year's Reading Ambassadors! As in previous years, children who wish to apply for the role, can create a poster explaining why they would make a good ambassador for reading in our school. The deadline for applications will be shared with classes next week.

Please remember that on our website you can find links to recommended reads for children of all ages and a list of 100 top children's books so you will never be stuck for ideas on what to read! Find the links on the Curriculum, English Reading section of our website.



# Safeguarding

Thankyou again for your support with the measures in place regarding allergies, it has been greatly appreciated. **Please can you ensure that no children are arriving on the school site before 8.30am please.**

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## School Street

Just a reminder that the School Street initiative begins on **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September.**

Only residents and those exempt can drive into View Road, and the school gates between **08.00 and 9.15am in the morning, and 3.00pm and 4.00pm** in the afternoon. More information can be found on the Medway Council Website.



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## Uniform

Please ensure all items of uniform are named to avoid them going missing, including items of PE kit. The details for the correct uniform required can be found on the school website. Please can children with long hair have their hair tied back. The PTA will be offering a second-hand uniform shop at the end of each term, which will be situated on school grounds, where good quality uniform will be available at a low cost.



## Charity Stalls

I have already been struck by the generosity and caring nature of the children at Cliffe Woods. I have had a number keen to raise money for charity already this year. We aim to spread out charity events across the year, and the children will offer low cost items that can be purchased.

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## Breakfast Club and After School Club

Our clubs are proving really popular at the start of the year. We may be unable to cater for last minute phone calls looking to book on, and appreciate people booking as much in advance as possible.



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## Teacher-Led Clubs

After school clubs begin on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September. Details of these will have been sent out already. The school offers a wide range of clubs and a huge thank you to staff who volunteer their time to run a club.



# Parent Drop-In Sessions

On Tuesday 23rd September, after school, there is an opportunity to drop in and meet your child's class teacher. They will be based in their classroom and it is a great opportunity to get to know your child's teacher for this year.



## Finally

Thank you to all members of the community for making me feel so welcome at the start of my journey as Headteacher at Cliffe Woods. Cliffe Woods is such a special school, and I am incredibly proud to be a part of it.

I have had an amazing couple of weeks meeting everyone and getting to know the routines. I am really excited to work alongside the amazing PTA to continue to provide amazing opportunities for all.

Please continue to speak to me on the gate or send an e-mail via the office if you have any questions or concerns. I know we will have a brilliant year with your fantastic children and our hardworking, kind and dedicated staff.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Bernard  
Headteacher



## Dates for the Diary

Please take a careful look at the following dates, all of which can be found on the Events Calendar on the school website, and make a note of any that may affect your child.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	New Yr R Parent Lunch Teacher-Led Clus begins
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> September	Medway Test
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	Medway Test
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	3.30pm-5.00pm Drop-In Session for Parents
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Phonics Talk for Yr 1 Parents: 2.45pm
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Wear Red - Show Racism The Red Card
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Last Day of Term 1
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Staff Development Day

## Have Your Say Meetings:

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 9.00am  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 2.30pm  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 9.00am  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June at 2.30pm

