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20th October 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Once again time has flown and already we are at the end of term one!

Pupils and Staff

Due to having a new building, we have now increased in size and lots of new pupils have joined us this year. Everyone has settled into their new classes really well, both new and existing pupils. Routines are in place and pupils are enjoying learning.

As a result of increasing pupil numbers, we have had lots of new staff join us who have also settled in well. Welcome to all of those who have joined us, we hope that you are very happy at Five Acre Wood.

Healthcare plans

You all will have completed a healthcare plan for your child. When you come in for meetings you will be asked to check that plans are up-to-date and re-sign them. These plans include all information regarding your child's healthcare needs so please always inform us if there are any changes and ensure that you return any signed forms that have been sent home. We keep the updated plans and should a pupil ever have to go to hospital, the plan would go with them. Please can I remind you to write changes clearly and also if there are any attachments please check these to ensure that they are still relevant.

New build

I am very excited to announce that our outside play areas have now been completed! Pupils have been enjoying having lots of extra space to play in. Please see photos below:



Parent handbook

As we have had so many new pupils join us this year and also to ensure that parents/carers are provided with as much information as possible, we have created a parent handbook. This has been emailed to parents and carers and can also be viewed on the school website, www.fiveacrewood.co.uk. If you would like a hard copy of the handbook, please request this from the school office.

School Development Plan

The school Strategic Development Plan for this year has been finalised so please find attached a summary of this. This highlights all of the targets that we will be working towards this year.

School events

Class coffee mornings/afternoons took place earlier this term and were enjoyed by all. These sessions are a good opportunity for parents and carers to come in, visit the classroom and meet the class team and we will continue to do this each year.

Unfortunately, due to the condition of the school field, we had to cancel the sports days that were planned for this term. However, pupils still took part in a Panathlon which was a great success and enjoyed by everybody. Parents/carers will be invited to the sports days that are taking place in the summer term.

I would like to congratulate everyone involved in this year's Harvest Festival performance. It was a great achievement for lots of our pupils who had never taken part in a performance before and we have received really good feedback. Thank you to those involved in organising this event and to all parents and carers who attended.

There will be a report and photos of these events included in the winter newsletter which is sent out at the end of term two.

We recently held our first parent support group this academic year and have scheduled the next one for Monday 27th November at 2pm. The subject will be 'iPads and apps' and will be led by our Phase Lead Teacher, Ashley Blackett. If you would like to attend this session, please confirm your attendance in advance by phoning the office on 01622 743925 or emailing office@five-acre.kent.sch.uk.

We have lots more events coming up next term, please see the attached list.

I hope that you all have an enjoyable half term and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Kind regards,



Peggy Murphy

Principal

Dates for your diary

Date	Time	Event
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Term 2

Monday 30 th October 2017	N/A	First day of term 2
Tuesday 21 st November 2017	All day	School photos (individual & class photos) – Loose site
Wednesday 22 nd November 2017	All day	School photos (individual & class photos) – Loose site
Thursday 23 rd November 2017	All day	School photos (individual & class photos) – Holmesdale and East Borough sites
Monday 27 th November 2017	2.00pm	Parent support group (iPads and apps)
Monday 4 th December 2017	3.45-6.30pm	Parents evening
Tuesday 5 th December 2017	10-11.30am	Christmas fair
Thursday 14 th December 2017	TBC	Nativity performance (primary pupils only)
TBC	TBC	Christmas dinner
Tuesday 19 th December 2017	Various	Class Christmas parties
Wednesday 20 th December 2017	N/A	Last day of term

Term 3

Thursday 4 th January 2018	N/A	First day of term 3
Tuesday 6 th February 2018	9.30am	Parent support group (Communication)
Friday 9 th February 2018	N/A	Last day of term

Term 4

Monday 19 th February 2018	N/A	First day of term 4
Monday 12 th March 2018	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Tuesday 13 th March 2018	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Wednesday 14 th March 2018	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Thursday 15 th March 2018	N/A	First day of term for pupils
Wednesday 28 th March 2018	10-11.30am	Easter Fayre
Thursday 29 th March 2018	N/A	Last day of term

Term 5

Monday 16 th April 2018	N/A	First day of term 5
Monday 7 th May 2018	N/A	Bank holiday (pupils and staff not in school)
Wednesday 16 th May 2018	All day	Parent support group sessions (subjects TBC)
Thursday 24 th May 2018	10-11.30am	Secondary summer performance
Friday 25 th May 2018	N/A	Last day of term

Term 6

Monday 4 th June 2018	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Tuesday 5 th June 2018	N/A	First day of term for pupils

Wednesday 27 th June 2018	TBC	Primary sports day
Thursday 28 th June 2018	TBC	Secondary sports day
Friday 6 th July 2018	All day	Transition day
Friday 13 th July 2018	9.30am	Parent support group (online safety)
Tuesday 10 th July 2018	3.45-6.30pm	'Meet the new teacher' parents evening
Thursday 19 th July 2018	10.30am	Secondary prize giving
Tuesday 24 th July 2018	N/A	Last day of term

NOTE TO PARENTS/CARERS REGARDING MEDICATION

To ensure that your child is given the most current prescribed medication of the correct dose and at the right time, please read these guidelines:

1. Please ensure that all medicines sent into school are in the ORIGINAL pharmacy containers/packaging clearly labelled with:

- Your child's name
- Name of prescribed medication
- The dosage and frequency of administration
- How medicine should be given, e.g. by mouth, via feeding tube
- Date medicine was dispensed
- Expiry Date

Any nurse will have the right to refuse the administration of medication to your child if this information is not clearly shown on the label.

2. Please inform the school nurse of any change to your child's regular medication, including alterations to dose, frequency or medication being stopped as advised by a doctor. These alterations need to be confirmed in writing by the prescriber. **We cannot accept verbal alterations and will be unable to give an amended dose unless we have the medication in its original contained with the correct information printed on the label or receive the changes in writing from the prescriber.**

3. If your child is prescribed emergency medication (Diazepam/Midazolam for epilepsy or Anapen/Epipen for allergy) please inform the school nurse immediately. Further information from your child's doctor will be needed regarding when the emergency medication should be given and this will be kept in school so all staff are aware of what care your child needs in an emergency.

4. Please ensure there is a sufficient supply of all the medicines your child needs whilst in school. We will contact you to advise when we are running low.

5. When sending in medication, it must not be put in your child's bag. Instead, it should be handed directly to a member of the class staff. If your child comes into school by taxi, the medication should be given to the escort who will then hand it to a member of the class staff when they arrive at school.

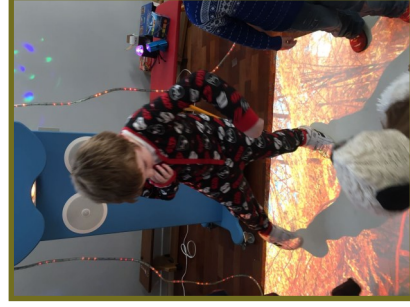
PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, BEHAVIOUR AND WELFARE

TARGETS

- To support an active school council
- To further develop awareness of SEMH and mindfulness
- To work within an increasingly efficient and effective system of meeting pupil behaviour
- To be awarded Wellbeing Award for Schools and Rights Respecting School Award

PUPIL OUTCOMES

- Pupils' engagement levels are high so learning is progressed and evidenced
- Pupils feel safe and secure during the school day and outside school
- Pupils feel valued



OUTCOMES FOR PUPILS



TARGETS

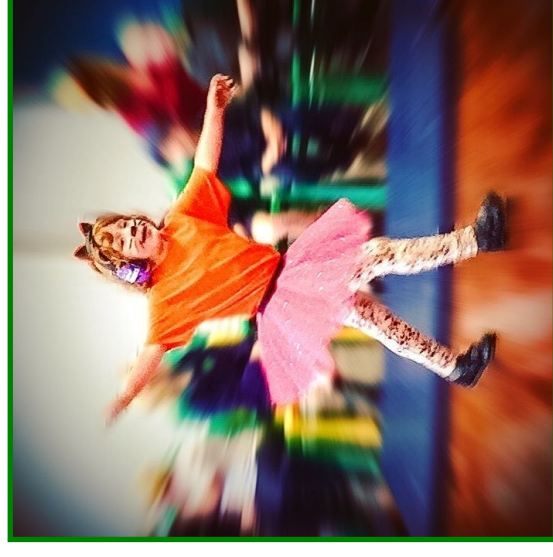
- To increase the number of pupils making above expected rates of progress to above 55% in English and maths
- To continue to develop and embed a quantitative 'basket of indicators' approach to demonstrate progress in areas other than maths and English and across EYFS, KS1 and 6th Form
- To enhance secondary accreditation opportunities
- To have effective comparative data tools to measure progress
- To develop a system to administer, monitor and evaluative EHCP provision plans.

PUPIL OUTCOMES

- Raised attainment and opportunities to be awarded a range of accreditation awards

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

2017 - 2018





OVERVIEW

To further develop Five Acre Wood School, the Strategic Development Plan has been developed for the coming year

The aim of this plan is to remain 'Outstanding' whilst building upon our current excellent practice

In order to achieve this, there will be four key areas:

- 1) Quality of Teaching
- 2) Leadership and Management
- 3) Behaviour and Safety
- 4) Achievement

This document is an overview of the plan for the academic year 2017-2018



QUALITY OF TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT

TARGET

- 100% of lessons will meet at least expected outcomes with 40% exceeding expectations through embedding coaching and mentoring and making staff more self-evaluative

PUPIL OUTCOME

- Attainment raised through high quality learning experiences, facilitated by good/outstanding practitioners



EFFECTIVENESS OF LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT



TARGETS

- To strengthen partnerships within and outside Kent
- To continue to develop Leadership capability and capacity through the school
- To improve and ensure appropriate facilities are in place to optimise learning
- To continue to enhance the provision offered
- To ensure continued high quality provision with increase of staff numbers and change in membership

PUPIL OUTCOMES

- Increased pupil outcomes through holistic working practice
- Specifically developed provision to meet pupil need