

Lytchett Matravers Primary School

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Executive Head Teacher: Susannah Hill Head of School: Laura Dominey



Dear Parents and Carers,

What a lovely first week back we have had. Thank you for being so supportive during your child's first week back in school. The children and staff have had a lovely week learning about their new year groups, school routines and getting used to their new learning environments.

We thought we would take this opportunity to share some news and information with you;

<u>Welcome:</u> We would like to extend a very warm welcome to all the new Reception (EYFS) children who began their school journey in Ladybird and Honeybee classes yesterday. They looked so smart and grown up in their new uniforms! We would also like to welcome all the new children and families that have joined us across the school in other year groups this September. It has been lovely to meet you all and we hope you are all settling into the community well. We would also like to welcome our new staff members – Miss McDonald, teacher in Year 2, Miss Fripp, Teaching Assistant in Year 3, Miss Storey, Teaching Assistant in EYFS and of course Mrs Hill our Executive Headteacher.



Key Dates: A key dates letter will be forwarded to you today, highlighting the main dates for this school term. Please note that there may be additional events added to the school diary, which will be communicated with you as the term progresses. We do our very best to ensure that as many dates as possible are set in advance and that planned events are not cancelled. However, at times this is inevitable and out of our control. We thank you in advance for your support with this moving forwards.

Scooters/Bikes and all things wheels: Thank you to everyone for working with us to ensure we keep our children and families safe. This week we had a very near miss with a child riding a scooter on the premises during drop off, so we would like to take this opportunity to remind all our children and families that no scooters or bikes should be ridden on school grounds for health and safety reasons. This also includes younger and older siblings. We hope you can continue to support us in this matter to ensure everybody remains safe.

<u>Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete RAAC</u>: You may have seen recent media coverage regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and its use in educational settings. RAAC is a lightweight form of concrete; because it is weaker than regular concrete, concerns have been raised about its long-term durability. Department for Education (DfE) has recently changed its guidance to education settings on the management of RAAC to take a more precautionary approach and as a result areas in affected spaces will be vacated.

We wanted to inform you that we are not affected by this decision because RAAC has not been highlighted in our school buildings and this has been looked at in conjunction with Trust surveys and DFE surveys. Therefore, we will continue to function as normal. I hope that this offers some reassurance to you.



<u>REMINDER</u>: Meet the Teacher! Next week our teachers will be hosting their annual 'Welcome to Year X' meetings for all parents. These meetings will provide you with the opportunity to meet your child's new class teachers, find out about key information and ask any questions that you may have for the year ahead. The meeting will also include some time in your child's new classroom, taking part in an activity with them. We hope to see as many parents there as possible. The dates and times for each year group are as follows:

Year 1: Monday 11th September 2.30-3.30pm, Year 2: Wednesday 13th September 2.30-3.30pm Year 3: Tuesday 12th September 2.30-3.30pm, Year 4: Wednesday 13th September 9.00-10.00am Year 5: Tuesday 12th September 9.00-10.00am, Year 6: Monday 11th September 9.00-10.00am



Pets: Although we are an animal loving community, please can we remind our parents that no pets are permitted on the school site, especially during drop off and pick up times. This is for many reasons, including animal welfare and for the health and safety of our children and families.

Let's Celebrate! Every Friday in school, the children will have a celebration assembly where we will celebrate their successes across school and in the wider community. If you feel your child has something they would like to share during one of our special assemblies, please notify the school office for the attention of myself, Mrs Dominey. We always love to hear about our children's successes outside of school and celebrate them!

FAB FRIDAY: Moving forwards, I will be hosting a FAB FRIDAY treat for our children who go 'above and beyond'. The children will be selected by their class teacher to attend a special treat with me on a Friday. If your child receives one of these special rewards, a postcard will be sent home to you during the week to explain why they have earned this privilege. I can't wait to begin this next week. Consequently, the children have been told about this during assembly today.



PTEC: Parent & Teacher Events Committee – A HUGE thank you to one of our parents who has been in school this week to help re-paint the chalk boards around school and in the playgrounds and who also set up the EYFS 'First Day of School' photo stage. Everyone loved it! Our first PTEC meeting will be held on Monday 18th September, please notify the school office if you would like to attend and become part of this fabulous team. The agenda items will be Project Playground and the Halloween Disco!



Finally, thank you! Thank you to the lovely person that has created this for our children starting back in school this week. All of our children love to see the different, creative letter-box creations and often speak of them in school. It has been so lovely to see the children back in their new uniforms looking smart and ready to learn. They have made you all very proud this week. If anyone knows the person behind the letter-box crochet-creations, please notify our school office as we would like to personally thank them for this fabulous creation!

We hope you have a wonderful weekend in the sunshine. Best wishes,

Laura Dominey Head of School