Dear Parents

Welcome to the summer term that shows some promise of delivering the much sought after sunny days and outdoor learning opportunities. The children look splendid in their summer uniform and have returned refreshed and ready for this enjoyable term. I always look forward to the graduation of the Reception children who now join the upper school in leaving by the back door and shaking hands with me and this will begin on Monday.

Thank you to all the parents who attended the coffee morning today. The PTA do a wonderful job and need your help to keep up the good work so do get involved this term and make a new friend or two.

We endeavour to help our families by keeping in touch and giving advanced notice of the many exciting events on offer each term and to make this as easy for you all as possible, we try hard to keep our website up to date. I have taken advantage of this short week to dedicate page 2 to reminding you all of what is on offer. It is done for you so please do use it!

As always we want to hear from you and our second Parent Forum will be held on 5th May (details on p4) so do drop our Chair, governor Nigel Field, a line about any issues with which you would like assistance by 28th April please so that we can have our responses ready. We will also take this opportunity to feed back with the results of the Parent Questionnaires.

Following the great success of the Kindness Kangaroos and Polite Penguins, you may be intrigued to hear about our Door Mice this term. Encouraging the children to be mindful of others is a valuable part of their education and those children waiting for an adult to come through the door rather than pushing through first as well as those holding a door open for the person following will be awarded a lovely laminated door mouse for the first half term.

Congratulations to Daisy G, Sophia D and Matthew S for being the first children to receive the award this week. To complete the term we will then have some adorable Helpful Hedgehogs to be awarded to our thoughtful and hard working children.

Do enjoy looking at the Dates for the Diary and make a note of any events that involve your child. If you have any questions at all please don’t hesitate to ask at Reception.

Annie Thackray, Headteacher

Thought for the week
Is being curious a bad thing?

Philosophers of the week
Lucas C, Jacob F and Ho-Yan
Why are we here?
What a lovely sunny welcome to the Summer Term and a special welcome to our new children in Nursery, the Twinkling Stars. We are also very excited to introduce a new member of the Nursery Staff Team, Mrs. Bishofer who will be busy helping with administration as well as working with all the children throughout the morning. Please remember to send your child’s school sun hat into school each day.

The Nursery Topic this term is ‘If I were…’. The children had lots of ideas for the topic. We will be pretending we are animals, like chickens and horses at the farm. We will pretend we are bugs and beetles and little creatures we find in the garden. We may pretend to be magical creatures, perhaps a ‘Hipporhinostricow’ like Spike Milligan. At the end of term we hope to be Superheroes but at the start of term we are going to be princesses, knights and people who lived long ago in a castle.

The role play area has been transformed into a castle and the children have been looking through information books to find out what we need to complete the castle. The children decided we need a horse, a kitchen and a fire to keep the castle warm. The kings and queens need crowns and the brave knights have been busy making shields as you can see in the picture. The children love dressing up and have asked for a mirror for the castle bedroom.

The Reception children made a mind map of all of the things that they want to learn about during their topic ‘I like to move it, move it!!’. The children had very challenging ideas. Some want to know how frogs jump or lions and tigers move. Some children wonder how dinosaurs moved and dolphins swim. The children want to learn how spiders, butterflies and birds get about and how do flowers move. Those interested in mechanics want to find out more about cars, helicopters, aeroplanes, motorbikes and rockets. Some children are puzzled by the world and the sun moving and one child asked “how do clouds move?” But first the children have been exploring their own movements first. What makes us able to run, lie, and jump, I wonder why we can’t fly…?

The Foundation Team