



8 September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome back to a new school year, and a very warm welcome to our new Billy Class. I hope you all had a good summer, especially with the exceptional heat and sunny weather we experienced! We saw plenty of excited children on our return and many parents and carers too! We are looking forward to lots of exciting learning and activities over the next few months and I would urge you to read the fortnightly newsletters in order to stay up to date. Don't forget these are available on our school website too.

It seems impossible that we are now ten years old and we first opened our doors in September 2013 to welcome 99 children. Typically, the weather was hot that week too! I would like to thank Mr Pearce for his valiant efforts in treating the wooden cladding over the summer holiday and he is almost finished. We just have a few areas to complete and hope this will preserve the building for a year or two before we have to do it again. In light of the many reports of schools and public buildings which are experiencing issues, we are fortunate to be relatively new and have avoided these issues, although like all schools, we are constantly trying to keep up with the maintenance.

#### Reception Class

Can I remind you that week commencing **Monday 11 September** Billy Class children will have lunch at school and will be collected at 1:00pm. A school menu has been sent home with them today. From week commencing **Monday 18 September**, they will be in school all day.

#### Music Lessons - KS2

We are pleased to offer Music Lessons to our Years 2,3,4,5 & 6 children this year. A separate letter has been sent home asking parents/carers to complete and return the slip if your child is interested in learning an instrument. We did ask for this a quite short notice as the music teachers are keen to get started but do return any slips or email the school office by **Monday 11 September** if your child has not yet returned it. As you can imagine, this is quite a task to sort out and the logistics can be complicated but will do our best to accommodate what has been requested. In some cases, we may need to add to a waiting list. Confirmation of music lessons will be sent out next week.

#### Year 6 Swimming - from Tuesday 13 September

A reminder that Pygmy Class will start their lessons on **Tuesday 12 September**. Lessons will be held every Tuesday for Terms 1&2. Please ensure that the children bring their swimming kit and we recommend the children wear their school PE kit to school, in order to help speed up changing at the pool. Children will travel by to Ashford School by minibus, and should be back in time for the end of the school day, but do bear in mind this will depend on traffic. Swimming costs for Year 6 will be covered by the school.

#### Elite after school football club

If your child is in KS2, and has said they are interested, they would have received a today inviting them to sign up to the Elite After School Football Club. These sessions will start **Tuesday 13 September**.

#### School After School Activity Clubs

The letter for clubs will be going out early next week so do look out for them. They must be returned by the date on the letter as it takes Mrs de Roeck considerable time to sort through them all!

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**MS T ADAMS Headteacher**

### School Calendar

A paper copy of the school calendar for the year will be sent home early next week. These are the key dates for the year and we hope this helps families plan ahead. May I remind you that we cannot authorise general family holidays taken during term time so do check the term dates as these differ from school to school.

### School Office

Please be aware that we are rather busy in the school office at the moment but will deal with any enquiries you have as soon as possible. Please inform the school if your child is absent as this helps us considerably. This can be by calling and leaving a message on the absence line or via email to the school office.

### KIC Theatre

KIC Theatre will be back next week, and every class will participate in a workshop linked to their class book or topic. The children always enjoy the experience and it is a great way to include drama in school. We are fortunate enough to be able to offer this activity at no cost to you on this occasion.

### PE Days

The year groups are having PE on the following days for Term 1:

Year R	Wednesday
Year 1&2	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 3	Monday and Tuesday
Year 4	Monday and Friday
Year 5	Tuesday and Wednesday
Year 6	Tuesday (Swimming) and Wednesday

### Yr6 Secondary & Residential Meeting - Wednesday 20 September

We are inviting parents/carers of Yr6 children to attend a meeting on **Wednesday 20 September** from 3:30pm to 4:15pm in the school Hall. We will be sharing information about Secondary Schools as well as the end of year Residential trip. Please note that many Secondary Schools have arranged their open days/evenings and are advertising these on their websites. So we recommend you check the individual Secondary School websites for details.

## Friends of Goat Lees

**We need you!**

**A reminder about our upcoming AGM**

Thursday 28 September at 2:30pm in the School Hall

*Looking forward to seeing/meeting you*



With best wishes for the new academic year

*T A Adams*

**MS T A ADAMS**  
Headteacher