

Heads2Home

12 September 2014

Welcome Back

Welcome back to the start of a new term. As always it has been a busy start to the year with so much happening. We have had a really calm start to the year which is thanks to the hard work of all the staff.

Children seem to be settling well in to their new classes and are all looking smart and ready for the new year. Our new intake of reception children started this week and they have been charming and have already had two letter sounds introduced. They have begun following school routines already and settled in so quickly.

We have had a really positive start to our new adventure as Joint Head Teachers — thank you so much for the support received from both parents and staff.

We have a number of exciting projects planned for this year which include new playground markings and play equipment at both sites, working with an art specialist who is coming in to do some staff training and work in classes with children on drawing and painting techniques and further development of children's handwriting skills (for more information—see kinetic letters below). We have the Longtown residential planned for next week for year 6 children and we will be having a year four trip to Grendon this year which may also include some year three children depending on spaces — details will follow later in the year.

As always at Ecton Brook Primary School as Head Teachers we will continue to have an open door policy — if you have anything you wish to discuss, questions or just want to say hello and meet us properly if you have not already done so, come on in or have a chat when we are outside. We are each based at Bellinge Campus for two days per week and at Ecton Brook for three days so that one of us is available most of the time if you wish to see us. Mrs Ford, our Deputy Head Teacher, is also here and will be happy to see you.

Dates

22 September—Longtown Residential for year 6
20 October—Harvest Festival
22 & 23 October—Parents Evenings

School Blog

www.ectonbrookprimaryblogs.net

Please visit our class blogs and leave us a message. Reading your messages helps us to motivate the children.

Mathletics

All children in years 1—6 have their Mathletics passwords and are expected to go on the site each week to complete their maths homework tasks. There will be computer clubs available for anyone that finds it difficult to access Mathletics at home.

Kinetic letters

All staff who work in reception year and year one and two have completed training this week on a new handwriting program called kinetic letters. This involves exercises in class to help with pencil control and letter formation. Every day the children will have a short session to practise skills and correct letter formation. Lots of activities like lying down on their front to write, using monkey bars and chair sit ups are used to help to develop children's shoulder and hip strength. The children also learn rhymes and actions that help them to form letters correctly.

We have seen great results with this program in other schools. Ask the children to tell you all about it and maybe they will get you to join in with the exercises. Good Luck with that - some are quite challenging!



