HEAD TEACHER MESSAGE

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers.

It was wonderful to see our children happily return to school after the summer holidays. All of our children and staff have returned safely and children were very happy to see their friends and teachers.

We endeavour to keep parents up to date with school life. Information can be found on our school website, www.tileryprimary.org.uk and updates are regularly posted on Facebook. Please 'like' our page for updates. Parental support of your child's education is crucial to their progress. Please tell us if there are any adjustments we need to make, for example: wheelchair access; explaining issues over the phone or the involvement of an interpreter. As you know, staff work incredibly hard at Tilery to ensure children are happy and very well educated. If you have any compliments or complaints, I am always happy to listen, act and explain.

Mrs Stanyard

GOVERNORS NEWS

Welcome back to school for the new academic year 2023-24.

We have had a busy start to the new term.

After the long summer holiday, it is pleasing to hear that all the children (including the new starters!) are settling well into school routines, accessing new and exciting learning activities. We know from experience, that regular attendance, coupled with positive parental support and encouragement, impacts significantly on children's progress and levels of attainment. We hope that all parents and carers will support school by ensuring that their children attend every day - and by working closely with teachers and teaching assistants, give their children the best chance of success.

Children from year 4 and year 6 have already had the opportunity to take part in residential visits to Outdoor activity centres at Newby Wiske Hall and Carlton. (A huge thank you to all staff who gave up precious family time to accompany children on these very special trips - without their good will and commitment the visits would not be possible!) We look forward to seeing photographs and reading reports about their adventures.

I hope everybody is looking forwards to the coming year at our school- as always, there will be lots of new learning and new challenges but also lots of fun!

New Faces

We welcome all new children to the school and also Mrs Stoker who joins our Year 3 team and Mrs Cook who joins our FS2 team.

RAAC

You may have seen 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. The 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.

I wanted to inform you that we are NOT affected by this decision as we do not have RAAC in any of our building and therefore they will continue to function as normal. We understand that parents may want to understand more about the support to educational settings to manage RAAC safely. You can read more through the article published by the DfE on the Education Hub.

Free Breakfast

Unlike many other schools, Tilery continues to offer a FREE breakfast bagel to EVERY child in school. Please make sure your child is in school at 8:30am, as we are unable to offer this to children who arrive late as we are busy teaching lessons by then.

Parent Consultations

Class teachers will send you details of parent consultations which are being held between 1pm and 4pm on 23rd and 24th October. Appointment times will be issued closer to the time.

Packed Lunches

We have children in school who have allergies to nuts. Please do NOT send in nuts of any kind and please check packaging for nut content such as Nutella or coconut cereal bars as even just sitting next to someone eating it can start a reaction. Please ensure your child has the right amount of food and that it is healthy.

Extending the curriculum

Our Year 4 children had a fabulous time at Carlton at the start of September. Activities involved gully walking, den building and even a spot of Bingo! The children were a credit to the school and behaved brilliantly. Huge thanks to Mrs Fender, Mrs Turner, Mrs Loughran and Mr Large for enabling the year 4 residential to go ahead.

Year 6 enjoyed our first visit to Newby Wiske. All children and staff had a brilliant time and pushed themselves to new heights on the giant swing and Jacob's Ladder worked brilliantly in teams to problem solve. The silent disco seemed to be a huge hit with everyone! A massive thank you thanks to Mrs Rodgers, Mrs Moy, Mrs Carter and Mrs Pratt for giving up their time to take the children away.

Our FS2 classes have been very busy, taking the bus to visit Stockton Parish Church. The children were very sensible and loved finding out about what happens inside the church and meeting the people who work there.

It is a pleasure to mention that so many people comment on the wonderful behaviour of our children and take the time to mention how polite and well mannered they are. Well done to all of our children who represent our school and community so brilliantly.

Letters will be sent out soon regarding residentials for next year. We want as many children as possible to experience these incredible opportunities so we VERY heavily subsidise the costs and parents and carers are given an option to pay weekly so no child will miss out because of money. These are a great way to reward children with a good level of attendance, behaviour and commitment to trying their best in school and completing homework and reading regularly at home.

SITE SAFETY

In order to keep everyone who comes on to site safe, can we please remind you that our site is a non smoking site—this includes the use of vapes.

Can we also kindly ask that you do not allowed your children to ride bikes and scooters on site especially around the admin area. We have had quite a few near misses in recent weeks.

E SCOOTERS

We have a number of children and parents who have electric scooters which they ride around the playground. Although this probably seems like a safe place for your child to ride, we have to issue a

Schools Advice Project

Providing parents and guardians of school age children specialist and independent advice on a range of issues.

What is the Schools Advice Project?

There's a lot of pressure on families at the moment and so SDAIS is **providing help** to overcome the resulting problems.

The **Schools Advice Project** is working in partnership with schools of the Stockton Borough and their families by providing **free, confidential, and impartial advice** to the parents and guardians of school age children.

The project provides advice and support to **parents, guardians and school staff**. In doing so, we hope to provide a positive change to the children and families we speak to.

Email: schools@stockton-cab.co.uk

Tel (voicemail) - 01642 626104

How can we help?

We provide **free, independent, confidential and impartial** tailored advice.

We can advise and assist on a wide range of issues including:

- Benefits
- Debts and Budgeting
- Housing
- Family
- Employment
- Energy

If you need advice on any of these subjects, **we are here to help you**.

We can accept referrals from schools, or if you prefer you can contact us directly.

Get in touch today to see how we can help you!

citizensadvice.org.uk

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Stockton & District Advice & Information Service
32 Dovecot Street, Stockton-on-Tees
TS18 1LN
Registered charity number 1105391.

citizens advice Stockton & District

COMMUNITY FUND

Paperwork

Please return signed paperwork to school as soon as possible. It is important that details such as phone numbers, addresses are kept up to date. Please remember to let us know if you change your phone and it has a different number.

Holiday Club

A huge thank you to Mr Nixon, Mrs Kitchener, Mr Durham and Mrs Chalmers for the work undertaken during the summer to provide a holiday club. The children really enjoyed the different activities and having the chance to play with their friends.

Funding

Has your circumstances changed? If so you could be entitled to free school meals. If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, your child will automatically received a Government funded Free

ATTENDANCE

If a child is absent from school, for whatever reason, parents must inform school in person, via email or by telephone as soon as possible. The normal routine is to telephone the school on the first morning of absence. If you ring before 8:15am, you can leave a message on our answer phone. Such calls are always logged and the class teacher informed.

A day off now and then may not appear to be a lot, but these add up. Persistent absence is a serious problem at our school. Much of the work children miss when they are off school is never made up, leaving them at a considerable dis-advantage to other children. There is clear evidence of a link between poor attendance and low levels of achievement in the future. The national expectation is that children should have 96% attendance. If you consider that:

Less than 5 days absence = 98%+ attendance

14 days absence (approx.) = 93.5% attendance

20 days absence (approx.) = 90% attendance

30 days absence (approx.) = 88% attendance

Then look at research which shows that:

Of pupils who have attendance of 50% or less, only 3% manage to achieve grades of 9 to 5 at GCSE, including English and maths

Of pupils who have attendance of 80% or 90%, only 35% manage to achieve grades of 9 to 5 at GCSE, including English and maths.

Of pupils who have attendance of 95% or above, 73% achieve grades of 9 to 5 at GCSE, including English and maths.

The odd day here and there **DOES** matter to your child's education!

Well done to Mrs Chapmans class for getting the highest attendance for the month of September.

CLASS	%	POSITION
YR1 Mrs Chapman	96.1	1
YR5/6 Mrs Carter	95.6	2
YR5 Mrs Pickering	95.5	3
YR2 Miss Hunt	95.4	4
FS2 Miss Gent	94.8	5
YR3/4 Mr Large	94.2	6
YR1/2 Miss Mac Iver	93.9	7
FS2 Mrs McFee	92.6	8
YR4 Mrs Turner	92.3	9

ESAFETY

National Online Safety
7 questions to help you start a conversation with your child about online safety
#WakeUpWednesday
1
Which apps/games are you using at the moment?
THIS WILL GIVE YOU A GOOD OVERVIEW OF THE TYPES OF THINGS YOUR CHILDREN ARE DOING ON THEIR DEVICES, ALONG WITH THEIR INTERESTS. REMEMBER THAT THEY MIGHT NOT TELL YOU EVERYTHING THEY ARE USING, SO IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO ASK THEM TO SHOW YOU THEIR DEVICE, BECAUSE NEW APPS AND GAMES ARE RELEASED REGULARLY, IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE THIS CONVERSATION OFTEN TO ENSURE YOU ARE UP TO DATE WITH WHAT THEY ARE DOING.
2
Which websites do you enjoy using and why?
Search
AS IN THE TIP ABOVE, ASKING THIS QUESTION WILL ALLOW YOU TO FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD IS DOING ONLINE, AND ENCOURAGE POSITIVE CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THEIR ONLINE ACTIVITY. ASK THEM HOW THEY USE THE WEBSITES, AND TAKE AN INTEREST IN HOW THEY CAN USE THEM IN A POSITIVE WAY, ALSO ASKING THEM TO SHOW YOU IF POSSIBLE.
3
How does this game/app work? Can I play?
PLAY AGAIN?
YES
NO
SHOW A GENUINE INTEREST IN WHAT THEY ARE DOING. WHILST YOU ARE PLAYING A GAME OR USING AN APP WITH THEM, IT MIGHT HIGHLIGHT SOMETHING THAT THEY DON'T NECESSARILY THINK IS A DANGER TO THEM, IF THEY ACT LIKE THEY DON'T WANT TO SHARE THEIR ACTIVITIES WITH YOU, QUESTION WHY.
4
Do you have any online friends?
CHILDREN CAN FORM POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEOPLE ONLINE, AND THIS HAS BECOME MORE COMMON THANKS TO ONLINE MULTI-PLAYER OPTIONS, BUT THEY MAY NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A FRIEND AND A STRANGER. YOU COULD MAKE THE QUESTION MORE SPECIFIC TO YOUR CHILD, FOR EXAMPLE: "HAVE YOU MET ANYONE ONLINE THAT YOU LIKE TO PLAY GAMES WITH?" THEY MAY NOT WANT TO SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOU, SO ENSURE YOU TEACH THEM ABOUT HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS.
5
Childline 08001111
Do you know where to go for help?
ALTHOUGH YOU MAY BE THE ADULT THEY TRUST THE MOST, SOME CHILDREN STRUGGLE TO TALK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS ONLINE DUE TO CONFUSION OR EMBARRASSMENT. BECAUSE OF THIS THEY MAY STRUGGLE TO APPROACH THE NORMAL PEOPLE WHO WOULD HELP, SUCH AS YOURSELF OR A TEACHER. HAVE A CHAT TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT EXACTLY WHERE THEY CAN GO FOR HELP, AND HOW THEY CAN REPORT ANY ACTIVITY THAT THEY BELIEVE IS INAPPROPRIATE ONLINE.
6
Do you know what your personal information is?
YOUR CHILD MAY ALREADY KNOW WHAT THEIR PERSONAL INFORMATION IS BUT THEY MIGHT NOT THINK ABOUT HOW IT CAN BE SHARED. HAVE A CONVERSATION ABOUT WHAT PERSONAL INFORMATION IS AND HOW THIS CAN AFFECT THEM IF IT IS SHARED BEYOND THE INTENDED RECIPIENT. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOUR CHILD UNDERSTANDS THE DANGERS OF SHARING CONTACT DETAILS OR PHOTOS, AS INFORMATION SUCH AS THIS CAN SPREAD QUICKLY ONLINE.
7
Do you know your limits?

Dates for your Diary

Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th October	Parent & Carer Consultations 1pm-4pm
Thursday 26th October	Break up for half term holiday
Friday 27th October	School closed for a PD Day
Monday 6th November	Return to school
Monday 13th November	Anti-Bullying Week – Odd Sock Day
Friday 17th November	Non-Uniform Day for Children in Need
Monday 20th November	School Photo Day
Friday 8th December	FS2 and FS1 Christmas Performance
Tuesday 12th December	KS1 Christmas Performance
Wednesday 13th December	School Christmas Dinner
Thursday 14th December	Christingle Service
Friday 15th December	KS2 Christmas Performance
Monday 18th December	Whole School Trip to Billingham Forum
Tuesday 19th December	Break up for Christmas holidays