

Happy Friday!

Values Stickers

This week it has been lovely to hear the children talking excitedly about earning the class coins and also seeing stickers starting to appear on jumpers. It has opened up lots of conversations about our values and what they mean day to day. I have spoken to different children about 'finding the meeting point' with their friends (connection), 'creating solutions' to maths problems (Imagination), and 'leaning into the unknown' to give a new task a go (courage) for example and each of those conversations started with me simply asking 'What did you get that sticker for?'.

Just to recap, this is how it is working:

The stickers are given to children to recognise something brilliant that they have done individually.

The 'coins' (silver magnets!) are to recognise the *collective* efforts of groups of children or the whole class and over time will earn a whole class celebration box.

Southville Stars certificates are also individual awards, and celebrate a child's effort or success of the course of a week. They are presented in Celebration Assembly.

Whole School Assembly Theme

in assemblies this week, Mr Commander talked with the children about growth mindset and the value of making mistakes. This is tied into the new feedback approach which we are developing which is all about children being actively engaged in editing and improving their work. They are using a red pen to make these improvements based upon the feedback they receive from the adults they are working with and we are encouraging them to recognise that mistakes, and using the red pen, are both evidence that they are learning.

Since his assembly, Mr Commander has had several children coming up to him to say they know they're learning because they have 'done lots of red pen'. This engagement and positive mindset is exactly what we are looking to nurture.

Individual Education Plan Meetings

Last year we introduced Individual Education Plans (IEPs). IEPs consist of specific next steps intended to support those children for whom the ordinarily available provision in the classroom is not resulting in the progress we would expect to see. Many children now have these in place, however we recognise that for the plans to be effective they need to be routinely reviewed and engaging with parents and carers is a key part of this process.

So this year we are introducing a whole school review schedule which means that all IEPs will be reviewed in terms 1, 3 and 5. The review will be shared with parents and carers in a face to face meeting last around 15 minutes. These meetings in terms 1, 3 and 5 will be in addition to the standard parents' evenings.

If your child currently has an IEP, staff will be reviewing it in a fortnight's time and will be in touch shortly afterwards to arrange your meeting. You will also be contacted if your child's teacher feels putting an IEP in place may be helpful.

SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) Team Roles

We now have the following leadership structure in place:

Catherine Moody: SENCO

Mrs Moody maintains an overview of SEND provision, and works directly with families whose child has an EHCP, Bristol Support Plan and/or additional external funding.

Amy Charnock: Deputy SENCO

Mrs Charnock works with class teachers to write, review and implement IEPs. She also works with staff to ensure our classroom environment and resources are as inclusive as possible. If your child has an IEP and you have a question about this, the class teacher is the first port of call but then Mrs Charnock will be happy to help.

Ujvara Massih: EYFS Inclusion Lead

Mrs Massih is the connection point for families of children with emerging needs as they join us in Preschool and Reception. She works with staff to make adaptations to resources and the environment and will liaise with Mrs Charnock and Mrs Moody if we need to put in place an IEP or other plan.

We are lucky to have three highly skilled and knowledgeable professionals making up this team and they will be working closely to ensure we are effectively supporting all children throughout the school.

Book Fair coming soon!

A message from Mrs Thomas: We will be hosting a pop up book fair at both sites on **Monday 25th - Thursday 28th September.** It is a fantastic way of supporting the school as every book purchased raises money for us to update our libraries and classroom book corners. We were blown away with your support last year!

The book fair will be open 3.15 - 3.45pm at Myrtle (in the quiet room opposite the bike shed) and 3.30 - 4pm at Merrywood (in year 1 Bear classroom).

We can accept cash or card payments/apple pay using their online payment system.

Have a lovely weekend, Andy Bowman

