



Message from Mrs Watts

What a positive and busy start to the new academic year! Thank you to everyone for your kindness and support, and for making it such a productive start to the year. All our classes have made a strong start, with high expectations and a clear focus on the behaviours and routines that help us to be productive and focussed on our learning. On my visits to classes, it has been wonderful to see children ready to engage and take part in class discussions. Thank you for coming along to our Meet the Team sessions, where we could share with you the expectations and learning your children will enjoy in the year ahead.

Our after school clubs and activities have begun and we are grateful to our staff team for providing these additional opportunities for children at school beyond the school day. These are a gift from our staff team and, as the year progresses, there will no doubt be different opportunities available for different children to enjoy.

Diary Dates:

04/10/23 – RAF STEM Team in school for Y4, Y5 and Y6
05/10/23 – National Poetry Day in school
w/c 16/10/23 – Y3 Harvest Assembly in school
17/10/23 -Parent Evenings Tuesday and Wednesday after school
17/10/23 – Y3 Trip to Choirokoitia
18/10/23- [Never Such Innocence](#) to work with Y5 and Y6 pupils on Remembrance Workshops
24/10/23 – Year 5 Residential (until 26/10/23)
25/10/23 – Y2 Rainforest Assembly for parents
27/10/23 - School closes for half term
06/11/23 – Staff Training Day
07/11/23 – School re-opens for children
17/11/23 - Children in Need

Parent Evening Meetings:

In a few short weeks, our class teachers are looking forward to meeting you at our parent meeting events.

You will receive a link via a letter, which will enable you to book an appointment with your child's class teacher. These appointments are short meetings, where teachers will discuss with you how your child has settled into their new school year and give you an update on the core areas of learning (reading, writing and maths).

Children with Individual Support Plans (ISPs) have been working on these throughout this half term and these will begin to be reviewed by class teachers at the end of this half term.

Gentle Reminder:

Our school car park is for staff and school visitors. Please do not use this for pick up and drop off at the start and end of the school day as there are many children who walk around the school site. This helps us to reduce of any potential incidents.

Thank you for supporting us in keeping our children safe.



Staffing:

You will know that we have been eagerly awaiting the arrival of our **new Deputy Headteacher**. Mr Simon Hayes will be joining us after October half term. Mr Hayes is an experienced Deputy who has taught across the primary phase and has supported colleagues in a range of settings and schools. He will be sending us a welcome message which we look forward to sharing with you soon!

We will also be welcoming our **new Year 4 teacher**, Mr Blom at half term. He is arriving earlier than we expected and we are very pleased that our children will have their permanent class teacher as soon as possible.

We are very grateful to Mrs Gilham for giving our Y4 children such a wonderful start to the new academic year. We are also pleased that we will be able to keep Mrs Gilham as part of our wider team and we will keep seeing her in and around school.

Curious and kind - have the courage to shine!

School Council:

In the first weeks of September, we took time to explore democracy in our assemblies. We considered where we could see democracy in our school, and children elected their very own class councillors. Congratulations to our new representatives! They are:

Reception: Noah and Losalini

Year 1: Maicie and Erik

Year 2: Nishma and Keren

Year 3: Mórrígan and Bradley

Year 4: Isobel and Martha

Year 5: Amelia and Marcus

Year 6: Agnes and Freya

Eco Heroes:

Our classes have also elected some fantastic eco heroes to support Mrs Pearson and our school in being “Ruby Responsible” as they consider how we can make a positive difference to our community and world. Our Eco-Heroes for this school year are:

Reception: Ellie and Seb

Year 1: Henry and Penny

Year 2: Tiberius and Jessica

Year 3: Ronnie and Eryka

Year 4: Rose and Rhys

Year 5: Austin and Liam

Year 6: Lyra and Nancie



Office Owls:

Our office staff are thrilled to have appointed some highly capable Year 5 pupils to support them with their many different jobs. There were so many wonderful applications that the office team are rotating their helpers per term. The first round of Office Owls was announced in our Friday celebration assembly.

They are:

- Lilly
- Lucas
- Mariama
- Oscar
- Francesca
- Lily
- Rosie



Attendance:

Please remember that good attendance leads to good learning and progress in school. As part of our normal monitoring of attendance, we will write to you if your child’s attendance is nearing or below 90%, as this is the figure for persistent absence.

Please do not be offended as this reflects our commitment to supporting all of our children to achieve their very best. We may also invite you in to school to discuss your child’s attendance and how we can support this.

Please note we cannot authorise holidays in school time.

Please talk to us if you need help or support in any way.

2023-2024 Term Dates:

Our school term dates for the 2023 – 2024 school year can be found on our website [here](#).

Winter Uniform:

Don’t forget that after half term, we will move into our winter uniform. Look on our website for more information [here](#).

Wraparound Care:

We have wraparound care available on site from 07:00 before school and until 16:00 after school. You can book these sessions as regular sessions or as ad hoc sessions. Holiday provision is also available and will be based at the Early Years site.

Please book sessions in advance by emailing

Episkopi.EarlyYears@modschools.org or by completing the form [here](#).



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Reminders:

- Please remember, **children should not be wearing nail polish or jewellery** such as necklaces or rings to school.
- Children **should not bring toys or stationery** into school.
- Please remember **school starts at 08:00**. Please **avoid bringing children in to school earlier than 07:45**. They will be unsupervised.
- Make sure your **contact details are up to date** so that we can contact you quickly in case of an emergency.
- Please remember your child must have a **hat in school every day** during warmer months.



Reception and KS1 Phonics Information Sessions:

We are delighted to be able to welcome our Reception and KS1 parents to an information event about phonics and early reading in our school.

We would like to welcome you on **Thursday 12th October at 14:15** to find out more about how phonics and early reading is taught in school. This information event will be suitable for parents of children in Reception to Year 2.

We will then offer follow up sessions for families to see what this looks like in school, particularly for our youngest children.



Clubs:

Our staff and wider team are pleased to be able to offer the following clubs for our children. These are subject to change and we will keep you updated:

- **Monday:** Tag Rugby (Y3 and Y4) and Choir (Y4 – Y6)
- **Tuesday:** Dance Fit (Y3 and Y4) and Guitar (Y5 and Y6)
- **Wednesday:** Tag Rugby (Y5 and Y6) and Gardening (Y3 and Y6 only)
- **Thursday:** Band Club (Y4 – Y6) and Science Club (Y6)

Over the year, our clubs and offering for different groups will change and develop and we will advertise these as soon as we are able.

Talk to us:

Please remember we are always here if there is anything you would like to discuss about your child's development or education and learning. All of our staff operate an open-door policy. If you would like to talk to your child's class teacher or a member of the team, you can use dojo to arrange a mutually convenient time or contact the school office.



We much prefer you coming to talk to us as soon as you are worried so that we can work together to address any concerns or worries you may have.

Gardening Club:

Gardening Club continues to wow us all with their amazing produce! It has been tough work for our older children preparing our ground for more of their amazing projects but just look at the pumpkin they harvested recently. We hope for more soon!



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