

Tuesday 14th September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

We have had a great first week back in school! Your children have done you proud. It has been so lovely to meet new children and families alongside welcoming everyone back.

### New Relationships Policy

We have started a new approach to Behaviour and Relationships in school. We are still establishing this and will communicate again when the new policy has been finalised. However, we felt it would be useful to let you know a summary of the main changes so far.

We are basing our Relationships policy on the book, "When the adults change everything changes. Seismic shifts in school behaviour", by Paul Dix. This book has been written in response to research. As with any change, new approaches take time to embed and our action plan for this extends over 2 academic years.

### Start of the school day routine – Visible consistencies

At the beginning of the school day, we now expect all the children to line up prior to going into class. The Class Teacher will lead the children into class to begin the day and their Teaching Assistant will be available for any messages that need to be passed on. You can of course still email [admin@myrtlepark.bradford.sch.uk](mailto:admin@myrtlepark.bradford.sch.uk).

We will continue with our morning routine of entering a calm classroom, gentle music on in the background alongside a morning activity and the emotion station check in. Wellbeing remains our priority. The 'Hideaway' has now reopened fully and sessions have commenced with Miss Haddy. For those parents new to our school, this resource allows children to access support for their well-being, self-esteem and confidence alongside bespoke therapeutic support where appropriate.

### 3 School Rules

- Ready
- Respectful
- Safe

These 3 school rules will be at the heart of our expectations. The children have had an assembly and discussed these rules within their classes. Regular and positive reference to these rules are made during the school day by all staff.

### **Daily Recognition Boards**

Each day, staff will acknowledge effort and positive attitudes based around a weekly focus e.g. being a kind friend. Research shows that advertising the behaviours we want to encourage is far more effective than advertising those we don't. Children can also be nominated by their peers for the recognition board and each day will see a fresh board ready to be filled. Please note, if your child is concerned that they are not on it every day, please do not worry. The principle is to promote and celebrate the positive focus in class and is a collaborative approach to positive recognition not a competitive approach.

### **Positive notes, conversations and phone calls home**

Please look out for a positive note in your child's book bag. You may receive a phone call or a quick update in the playground. We are aiming to celebrate the effort your children are making on a more regular basis as opposed to the use of stickers, badges and rewards. The written or spoken word of praise is important and this will ensure all children are recognised.

### **Headteacher Afternoon Tea**

Each week the children in each class will nominate up to 5 children for Afternoon Tea. Their nomination will be linked to effort and the recognition board focus. The Class Teacher will then decide with the class who should attend that week, whilst recognising all those nominated.

### **Celebration Assembly**

Celebration Assembly will now focus on wider successes the children experience outside of school e.g. a Ballet Exam Certificate, Cub Scout badges, swimming awards etc. These will be celebrated alongside other relevant celebrations such as celebrating diversity, special people and events at local, national and global level.

We will endeavour to keep you updated with changes and when the policy is finalised with Governors this will be shared.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Sarah Huby  
Headteacher

Mrs Anna Riley  
Deputy Headteacher