



AUTUMN TERM



11TH SEPTEMBER 2023

What a fabulous start to the new term. Last week it was so lovely to see all of the children again after the summer break; and to welcome our new children who are on placement with us.

We assigned new House captains and vice-House captains, who all made a tremendous start with their new responsibilities, supporting their team members and working hard to demonstrate our school rules, values and expectations.

Seacole House: Jayden (House captain) and Ellie (vice-captain)

Jordan House: Kayson (House captain) and Leighton (vice-captain)

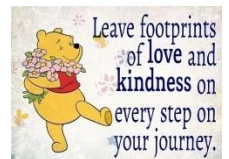
Einstein House: Jake (House captain) and Finley (vice-captain)

Darwin House: Anthony (House captain) and Darcy (vice-captain)

Values at Stepping Stones

The Values of the week are **KINDNESS** and **TOLERANCE**.

This week our focused values will be **kindness and tolerance** – two of our core school values - and we will be teaching and showing the children what these mean, daily.



This week the children will be listening to The Starfish Story – do remember to ask your child about it during the week and what 'star' they are going to hand to someone else in school....

The story teaches us that no matter what we think are obstacles in the way, perhaps stopping us from helping or thinking about others, **we can all, always make a difference**, no matter how small!

Remember to let us know when they have been able to show kindness to others around them at home. We love to be able to celebrate home nominations for our Values' Board in school each week. Simply message the class teacher via Class Dojo for a home nomination which will be read out and celebrated at Daily Meeting.



Can-do Colin will be resuming his weekends at home with the children. Please do encourage your child to involve him in your weekend activities and to pop a photo/picture/sentence in the diary ready for his return to school each Monday.

Class Dojo



Our main form of communication with home is via Class Dojo. This is a free app where you can link to the school.

We share learning, newsletters, positive experiences and communicate key messages through this system.

Please ensure you are signed up. New sign in details can be sent home to parents who are not on the APP.

Swimming



We are very much looking forward to starting our swimming programme again this term, overseen by Mr Holt. Lessons take place at Bay Leadership Academy in Morecambe, with Molly's Little Minnows. We take a small group each half-term.

As always this is very much dependent on the children showing respect and safety in school, to keep it safe for everyone off-site; and to ensure the risk assessment is rigorously carried out.

Children will need to ensure a suitable swimming kit is in school. As outlined in the letter that was sent home last week, we can keep the swimming kit in school and wash it each week. If your child does not have a kit and needs one we are able to sort this, **but need to know in advance**, thank you.

Things from home - a gentle reminder.

Children do not need to bring anything other than a water bottle to school. All equipment is provided.

If it has been agreed for your child to have a comforter e.g. teddy, this needs to be agreed with the class teacher and the teacher will set rules around where this stays during learning times. We don't encourage children to bring things for the following reasons....

- It causes problems / difficulties and can cause further upset for your child when we have rules about objects.
- It may go missing, lost, misplaced etc.
- It could get damaged.

As a Healthy School, we expect only water to be in a child's drinks bottle during the school day – no energy drinks, fizzy drinks, juice. Blackcurrant and orange squash is offered at lunchtimes. We ask that no metal drink bottles are used in school. Thank you.

Behaviour and Safety



Our three school rules are

- Be respectful
- Be Safe
- Complete your learning / tasks to a good standard

Please can you encourage and praise your child at home for working hard. Our school is focused on building positive relationships with the children to provide safety, consistency and trust. We have a firm, fair, friendly and focused approach. All staff have the same expectations, so children know boundaries.

Over the next 2 weeks we will be completing Emotional Regulation Plans with each child and talking to them about what helps them remain calm and in a good place for learning. Once these are complete, we will be sending a copy home for you to see what strategies and support have been agreed.

School Uniform



Finally, a reminder about our expectations around the school uniform:

- Our school uniform is navy blue jumper / cardigan. White polo / shirt/ t shirt.
- **Dark grey or black trousers/** leggings, skirt / shorts or jogging bottoms. **NO LOGOS.**
- Children should be wearing **black school shoes or plain black trainers. Again, no logos.**
- Children who are with us for short periods of time may choose to wear their mainstream school uniform.
- We do have uniform available to purchase if you wish your child to have a jumper with a logo / t shirt with a logo.

Only on PE days children may wear their PE kit. Again, this should be plain **non-branded** joggers / shorts and **plain PE T- shirts** (White, blue, black). **NO FOOTBALL** shirts or **hoodies**. They can wear their navy jumper over the top.

Thank You for your continued support. We are looking forward to the new school year and we are excited about the curriculum we have planned!

Please remember that we are here to support you and you can contact Mrs Armstrong (Family Support – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday).

Miss Meacham and the whole staff team at Stepping Stones School

