



# AUTUMN TERM



4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023

## Welcome back to the new Autumn term.

We are looking forward to the busy weeks ahead as we settle back into the school routine after the Summer break. We hope all our children, carers and parents have had a lovely summer and we look forward to welcoming our new families to Stepping Stones this week. We are sure you will all soon settle in.

### Values at Stepping Stones

## The Values of the week are RESPECT and TRUST.

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

This week we will be focussing on how each of us has a responsibility to help each other - to settle back into routines; find our way about; establish the school rules; respect our school environment; and in particular how 'easy' it can be to say something unkind and disrespectful, but impossible to take back, once it has been said. By learning and understanding about the importance of respect in our world, we gradually build up **trust** in those people we live with; and play and work alongside each day.



Please do take the time to discuss this with your child at home – ask them about the “Ketchup squirt” - and do let us know when they have been able to show respect 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.

### School Lunches

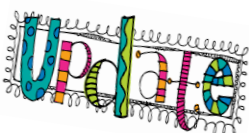


All our meals are prepared by our Housekeeper; Mrs Houghton. She works very hard to tempt the children to try new foods, to help ensure they have a healthy plate of food with lots of vegetables, salad and fruit.

If a child really does not like anything on the daily menu, they will always be offered a sandwich, wrap or alternative simple option, however we will be continuing to encourage all of the children to try something new; do help your child, if needed, to look at the menu each week; and to discuss new foods they may like to try. The menu is published weekly on class dojo. *A Reminder: though we do of course try at all costs to keep the price of meals to a minimum, as you are all aware, the cost of certain food items is continually increasing and we will unfortunately be increasing the cost of school meals to **£2.50** this term.*

Thank you so much for your understanding.

### Staff Team



Some changes in our staff team this term:

Y1/2/3 – Elm Class

Teacher – Miss Bradbury and supported by Miss West and Mrs Turner

Y2/3 – Hazel Class

Teacher – Miss Hunter and supported by Ms Moorhouse and Miss Watson

Y4/5 – Maple Class

Teacher - Mr Holt, supported by Mrs Bzania

Y5/6 Oak Class

Teacher – Ms Wilkie and supported by Mrs Rossall and Miss Elderton

We are also welcoming an additional teacher – acting Assistant Head, Mrs Van Mechelen; who will be covering classes when the teachers are required to do their planning, preparation and subject leadership responsibilities; as well as supporting with SEND responsibilities within school.

Miss Govier will now be joining Mrs Greenwood in our Outreach Service; as well as working in-house with pupils on their reintegration to mainstream school.

Mrs Graham continues in her role as Pastoral lead across the whole school; alongside supporting the Outreach team.

Mrs Armstrong continues in her role as Pupil Pathway Manager and family liaison.

**All Class teams will be compiling a newsletter to distribute later in the week.**

**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:

**On return for our Autumn Term , do please ensure your child is in the correct uniform for school, thank you:**

- 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 got 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