



# Birches First School

**Believe, Grow, Succeed ...**

**...to be the best 'me' I can be.**

10th September 2021

Dear Parents,

How quickly has this week past? I am delighted to inform you that the children have settled into school wonderfully. I am amazed at how they are working so hard and know all the routines already! A real credit to you!

A few things that have cropped up over the last week and I fully appreciate that some parents are new to Birches and everyone at some point needs a reminder, as we cannot remember everything! So I thought it would be helpful to write to you.

- When children are dismissed at the end of the day, I appreciate they say they are 'STARVING'! Please could you wait until you are off the school site before opening snacks and eating them.
- Although I do love dogs, unfortunately they are not permitted on school premises due to Health and Safety Policies, so please could dogs be left at home whilst you collect your child(ren).
- Mrs Banks has kindly asked me to remind all club parents that they are to use the intercom on the pedestrian gate for collection and arrival.
- Mobile phones. We ask that mobile phones are not used on school site. This is in guidance with Keeping Children Safe in Education and Working Together to Safeguard Children.
- Teachers have noticed children coming to school with book bags and a bag. Children only need a book bag in which they bring their reading book and diary into school each day.
- Cuddly toys. Please note that children are not to bring in comforters from home unless pre-agreed with teachers. If your child does bring in a comforter could I kindly ask that you pop it in their book bag and reassure your child it is there. As you can appreciate, it is very hard for some children to comprehend why they are not allowed to bring one into school. I know this is a very tricky subject and appreciate your support with talking this through with your child at home. I will be reiterating this message in Friday's Celebration Assembly.

## **PFA- WE NEED YOU!!!**

We will be holding our first PFA Meeting on **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 6pm**. This will be held in the staff room at school. Everyone is welcome and I plead that you do please come and help in any way you possibly can as your efforts do directly impact the children. As I am sure you are all aware school budgets are extremely tight and the PFA help to supplement many resources in school and provide children with many extras that we just possibly could not.

Finally, now that we have all the children in school and you are all firmly established with collection procedures please note that **all** (Nursery/Reception/1/2/3/4) children can be collected at **3.15pm** from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September. Please could I ask that if you have a child in Nursery/Reception they are collected first before any children in Year 1-4?

If anyone would like to ask me any questions, I am always available to talk whilst at the gate on a morning and afternoon or if you wish to discuss anything privately, I am more than happy to arrange a suitably convenient time with you to do so.

Thank you so much for your support and making the first week a success, the children (and teachers!) are very settled and happy! Have a good weekend.

Best wishes

S Varricchione

Headteacher