Towers Times

18th September 2020 Edition No. 4

Dear Families

The children are really getting in to the swing of their routines as we reach the end of the second full week of term. For our Reception children, this has been their first full week; we have been so impressed with how quickly they have settled into their new environment. It is a joy to welcome our new nursery children during their stay and play sessions, we look forward to seeing our new families starting next week.

Thank you for working with us to make the return to school as safe as possible for everyone. We know that the new drop off and collection arrangements have inconvenienced some of you but it is essential that we comply with government guidelines to reduce, as far as possible, the risk for our children, the reality, as you know, is that these are far from normal times and the virus has not gone away. We would therefore ask you to continue to follow our protocol for the start and end of the day by:

- Arriving and collecting your child at the right time, please don't be late or too early
- Using the one way system
- Maintaining social distancing where possible outside the school gates, masks are advised if this is not possible

Once again, thank you for your support and we will continue to review and refine the procedures where we possibly can, we really are wanting this to work for the benefit of us all.

From this week, we would like to extend a warm welcome to all families for our first Time to Shine Assembly. This year the event is "virtual" and we have prepared a short video of our Stars of the Week which can be found on the schools website. Please take a look!

Over the next two weeks teachers will be making 'touching base' phone calls to you. Whilst we hoped we would be able to use *Parentmail* online booking system, as we write this newsletter there remains a problem with access. If *Parentmail* comes back on line we will of course provide the booking system facility however, if this is not the case your child's teacher will attempt to make calls in alphabetical order for each class and of course, if it is not convenient they will be able to arrange another time to call back. The purpose of these calls is for the teachers to share how the children have been during the return to school, answer any questions you may have and also if there is any additional information about your child you think we should know. Later on in the term there will be a more formal meeting to discuss your child's progress so far which are scheduled for the week beginning 9th November.

We are always proud of our children but this week two pupils who demonstrated our school value of determination beyond the school gates deserve a special mention. Rafe S and his Dad visited all 20 premier league grounds in one weekend to raise funds for the charity MIND and so far has raised an amazing £1835.00. Also James H in 5H who completed over FOTFA 20 summer sports challenge and raised £72.50 for the school. Well done to both boys. Just brilliant!

Have a good weekend

Ms L J Blurton, Head Teacher – Infant school & Mrs C D Hurley, Head Teacher – Junior school

Notice for your attention

If you are late to drop off your child(ren) please telephone the school office to arrange a time slot which will be after 10am.

If you are late picking up your child please phone the school office who will arrange safe collection.

Friends of Towers Fundraising Association

MESSAGE FROM FOTFA

The Mother's Day Sale raised a fantastic £410 – thank you to all who supported us and we hope you enjoyed your presents.

Events for this weekend – please contact towerspa@yahoo.com for details or tickets.

Don't forget to finish off you summer sports challenge

Adventure Island bands on sale Blue bands £16 Green/red bands £13 email towerspa@yahoo.com for details

Hornchurch trail – Be a detective for the day by solving the clues

Key dates for your diary

w/c 21st & 28th September 2020 "Touching base" calls to parents
w/c 23rd September Year group navigation & presentations added to the website and sent home via parentmail
25th September - Macmillan Coffee Celebration
9th October Online Harvest Festival
w/c 9th November Remote Parent / teacher consultations

Stay connected..... please do sign up to twitter as this really is the virtual window into school life

@TowersInfant @TowersJuniorSch @TowersYearX and each year group have email addresses.