



Coleham Primary School

For every child, an Excellent Education

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Headteacher: Ms C Jones

Deputy Headteacher: Mr T Larkham

8th September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you have all had a relaxing summer break. It has been wonderful to welcome back all of our staff and children. Firstly, a big thank you for all of the generous gifts and cards that so many of you gave to me and staff members at the end of last term; they really were very much appreciated by us all.

We are really delighted to welcome our new Reception children and any other new children who have joined Coleham School this week and all of their parents/carers. Our new Reception children have been coming to school for half days this week to help them to settle into school life and we are enjoying getting to know them as they become part of our special school community.

The school has been a hive of activity this summer, with much renovation work going on. New pupil toilets have been fitted in the main building, the corridors and hall have been decorated and we have created a new nurture room for our EYFS children to use. Work has also been done to further improve the conservation area and some new work spaces have been created in the main school building. A huge thank you to Miss Othen who has spent much time over the summer in school overseeing these projects.

The Autumn Term is always a busy one and we have lots of exciting activities planned in school. Next week we are having a games week where the PE lessons will be dedicated to learning children's games, and we have an exciting visitor: *The Hoop Guy* who featured on Britain's Got talent. He will be doing some hula hoop workshops and we hope that this week will inspire the children to play some new games at lunchtimes and break. We are looking forward to organising some whole-school inter-house competitions for all children to take part in and we have another careers week planned in November, during which we hope to inspire all children to think about the future and what career they might like to pursue. Looking ahead to Christmas, we have already scheduled in our Christmas performances. See the attached bulletin for dates as we know that many of you will want to book time off work to come and watch. We are also planning a whole school trip to watch the pantomime at Theatre Severn this year, which we are really excited about – more details will follow.

As usual, we have planned opportunities to welcome you into school too. As well as yesterday's open classroom event (next Wednesday for Squirrels Class) will also be organising our usual face to face Parents' Evening around half term to update you on your child's progress in school.

Friends of Coleham have also organised a *September Social* event on **Saturday 17th September 11:00am – 2:00 pm**. You are all invited and this will be a wonderful chance for us all to meet and catch up with each other in a relaxed setting with lots of fun for the children. There will be lots of free activities: the children will have chance to perform in Coleham's Got Talent; enter our Dog Show or even Mr Venn's Tug of War.

We need **LOTS** of volunteers to help us run stalls, so please do rally your friends/family and lend a hand if you can. A sign up sheet will be in the school foyer to sign up, or please contact the school office.

Enrichment activities will continue to be important and we have already resumed all our clubs this week. Booking for our clubs took place last term and over the holidays, however, if you would like a club place for your child, please look on ParentPay or get in touch with the external provider to see whether there are any spaces available. All of the Club Information is available on our website. We are also planning other enrichment activities, such as school trips for all classes and, as usual, we will be inviting speakers and workshops into school to bring the school curriculum to life and make learning as fun and exciting as possible for our children.

Class Dojo

We are going to continue with our ClassDojo reward system this year. ClassDojo is an electronic system allowing all children to be rewarded for demonstrating excellent work, attitude, effort or examples of school values. This system will continue to be linked to our house system and weekly house totals will be announced each week in assembly. Children with the most Dojo points will be in the hat to have Headteacher Teatime with Mr Larkham on Friday afternoons. We will also use ClassDojo to share examples of children's work and pictures of what they have been doing here at school and for occasional messages from the teachers. If your child is new to the school, we will send home details about how you can log onto this app in due course. If you are not signed up, then please ask your child's teacher about this.

Contacting School

We are always open and welcoming of communication from families, but are mindful to keep communication as simple as possible so that messages do not get lost. If you need to contact members of staff, there are a number of avenues for you to do so. For important and/or sensitive matters, please contact the school office by email or telephone, and the relevant members of staff will be informed and get back to you as soon as is practicable. For less important messages and notes, please either:

- Speak to teachers or teaching assistants on the playground before or after school
- Contact teachers directly via ClassDojo message

Finally, please check our school website regularly, which lists all key events within school, has copies of all letters that we send out along with menus and club info and has a news section, in which we upload various photographs of school events for you to view. We will also continue producing our weekly bulletin sheets, the first of which is attached to this letter which will include important dates and reminders for the week ahead.

I will look forward to seeing many of you over the course of the term at the school gates.

Yours sincerely,



Claire Jones
Headteacher