





Welcome to 'Big School'! I hope your children are as excited about starting school as we are about having them here! The first couple of weeks will be focused on getting to know your children by playing with them and carrying out observations. We are using an online Learning Journey – Tapestry, which most of you are familiar with. If you haven't got a Tapestry account yet please sign up as soon as possible – we will be adding photos to the children's individual learning journals shortly! We will also be using Tapestry to give you information about school routines over the next few weeks so please make sure you check regularly and give us a 'like' so we know you have seen the posts 😰

We have already enjoyed looking at some of the special bags and the children have chatted happily about the contents. We don't like to rush through the bags so please bear with us if yours is at school for a while!

Our Term 1 topic is 'Marvellous me' and will focus on settling into school life, making new friends and thinking about how amazing we all are! The topic in Term 2 will be 'Celebrations' and we will be learning about different celebrations in many cultures and countries. You will be able to access a 'topic web' and 'knowledge organiser' on the school website and Tapestry at the beginning of each term.

Our door is always open if you have any worries or just want to ask us a question.

### Phonics

We will start teaching phonics using Essential Letters and Sounds on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September. You should have been sent a letter inviting you to a team's meeting about this.

Your child will bring home 3 reading books at a time. Reading books should be in school daily and will be changed once a week. We will change books that have been read at home so please make sure you record in the yellow reading record. Reading is a vital life skill and in Reception, phonics/reading is a focus area. Please hear your child read at home at least 3 times a week to support their learning at school.

Our Christian Value this term is **"Caring".** We will be talking about how we care for each other, and for ourselves. This will focus on positive mental health and good hygiene habits (handwashing, using tissues etc.)

Cherry Class Mrs Boswell

Lime Class Mrs Hamilton

### **Routines**

#### <u>PE</u>

Focused teaching of PE will be on a <u>Friday</u>. Please bring your child to school wearing their PE kit on Fridays. They will need to bring their school uniform and shoes in a named bag for changing into afterwards. PE will begin on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September.

## <u>Den (Library)</u>

Cherry Class will visit the den on a weekly basis. Please send your child's library book back each week so they can swap it. We will let you know when our weekly slot is soon!

### <u>A Reminder</u>

Children will need their wellies and a suitable coat at school every day as we play on the field in all weathers. They will also need a water bottle.

# Health and Safety

To help keep children safe, could you please refrain from letting your children play on the playground equipment (castle, trim trail and bikes) before and after school.