



### What makes me, me?

Welcome to 'Big School'!

We 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 very soon.

We have already enjoyed looking at some of the 'All about me' bags and the children have chatted happily about the contents.

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

Mrs Boswell and Mrs Bell ☺

#### Phonics

We will be producing a video this term outlining how we teach phonics at school, an overview of the phonics schemes we use and how you can help at home. We will notify you when it is available and you will be able to access it in your own time. We have already started teaching phonics and the children have been bringing homework sheets home! Please sit with your child and have a go at the letters but don't worry if they aren't keen to do it – it's all new to them. Please send any attempts back to school as children will receive house points for their efforts ☺

#### Diary Dates

W/C Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September – Flexi week

W/C Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September – Flexi week

W/C Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September – All children in full time ☺

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – End of Term 1

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).

#### Routines

##### PE

Focused teaching of PE will be on a Thursday. Please make sure ALL PE kit is named and kept in school.

##### Den (Library)

Cherry Class will (hopefully!) visit the den once a week. Please send your child's library book back each week so they can swap it – it will be in their bookbags. Watch this space for the day we have been allocated our 'slot'!

##### Read Write Inc Phonics

We have started teaching the sounds. Please check book bags daily for handwriting homework sheets and send them back to school for House Points!

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

Your child will need a named water bottle (not squash or juice) and suitable coat in school every day please.

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.