



St Bartholomew's CE Primary School

Thursday, 21st July 2016

Dear Parents / Carers,

I write to wish you and your children a very happy summer and look forward to seeing you all back at school on Monday 5th September. We especially look forward to meeting our new Reception intake of seventeen children but equally, it is with a degree of sadness that we wave farewell to our 9 year 6 children. I am sure that they will equip themselves well at their new schools and hope that they have fond memories of their time at St. Bartholomew's.

It has been mentioned to me that there was some confusion at the end of year awards ceremony held on Friday 15th July, about why a child received the trophy for the highest number of team points but not a certificate. I did enquire about this; the certificates were produced in advance but the number of team points that children had accumulated were counted up to the day of the awards ceremony (to ensure that any team points that children gained were still valid). At the time of the certificates being made, the child who eventually gained the most wasn't one of the four highest; however, by the time of the awards ceremony she had gained the most team points. I apologise for any confusion that this may have caused.

There are some very exciting changes that are due to be made over the summer to our school. The quadrant at the centre is being redeveloped into a purpose built area for our youngest children and will give the school a greater aesthetic appeal!

Over the next academic year, we will also be in the process of redeveloping the pond area – which FOSB (PTA) has kindly taken on as their fund-raising project. This will be used to enhance outdoor learning in many ways; Science (habitats, reproduction, adaptation), Geography (pond-dipping), Art (sketching, observational paintings) and of course providing homes for many different animals (we hope to have hedgehog nests, bird feeders, frog spawn etc). In addition, Mrs Helen Thorley has managed to secure a grant of £800 from Spalding Round Table. This will be used to set up a 'night-line' activity. It involves children being blind folded and having to overcome various obstacles, whilst following a line (rope, string). The children need to work together to communicate and help each other overcome these, building trust. In addition, our 'quiet area' outside Oak classroom, is to be renamed the 'Reflective Garden'. We will have a sign with an archway to signal this, Cherry tree (so that we benefit from blossom). It will be a space for children (and staff!) to reflect and provide a lovely sanctuary from the hustle and bustle of school life.

Please be aware that Farm Kitchen's menus for term 1 will be live and ready for ordering from Monday 25th July. The order deadline lunches for w/c 5th September is Tuesday 30th August.

I have really enjoyed my first term at St. Bartholomew's. On behalf of all the staff and children, enjoy the rest of the summer.

Best wishes

James Shawley
Head Teacher

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