



Friday 12th September

This week marks the transition to full days at school. The children have joined together very confidently after starting in smaller groups and are beginning to build their stamina for the longer days. This can often lead to tiredness and potentially a few tears at morning drop-offs. This is perfectly normal and something we see every year - please continue to talk about school in a positive way and encourage your child to come in quickly into school in the mornings. Once the children are through the doors, they very quickly settle into their activities.

Attached to this newsletter is a home project we would love all of the children to create with your help at home. Our first topic in Reception is 'Marvellous Me' where we focus on families and our lives so far. We would love every child to make either a digital or physical 'Marvellous Me Box'. Full information can be found on the next page but the key information is that you can start to bring in completed boxes from **Monday 15th September** and we please ask that you involve your child in the creation of the box as we would like for them to be confident talking about all of the items/photos inside. **We will typically look at a few boxes per day so we do not need all boxes in from Monday** but as soon as your box is done, please send it to school with your child or via our class email if completing a digital box. Hopefully the information on the next page is enough to help guide you but if you have any further questions please come and speak to your child's teacher.

Reading

Today the children will bring home their yellow reading diaries and a 'star book'. A 'star book' is a picture book from our class library that each child has chosen to take home for you to read with them. When your child would like a new book, they can bring their first book back to school and swap it for a new one to share at home. Your child may want to just read the book with you one time or they may enjoy reading it a few times before they want to swap it for a new one - think of star books as library books to borrow and swap.

Every time you read a star book with your child, please record this in your child's yellow reading record book noting the date and the book you read together. If you read and record on 3 or more days across 1 week, your child will get a sticker for their sticker chart.

Mathematics

In Maths we have been learning some early number songs such as '5 Little monkeys' and '1 Elephant went out to play' - maybe your child can remember the songs and sing them to you? We have also been looking at matching pairs of objects - including one or two smelly socks!

- Please label all items, a number of jumpers and cardigans are unnamed.
- Only water should be in water bottles. Children having packed lunches do require a drink in their lunch box. Children having hot dinners are given a drink in the dining hall. **No nuts please.**
- Fruit should not be brought in for snack time please, fresh fruit is provided daily. If children bring alternative fruit it can create problems and confusion.
- Please help us by not allowing children to play with the activities and resources in our outdoor classroom before and after the school day.
- **The children do not need to queue to come in once staff open the door in the morning—now we are more settled in routines, we would like to get children in more quickly and this will also help with any teary starts too.**

Marvellous Me Boxes

We would like to invite every child to make a '**Marvellous Me**' box.

We will use these in school over the next few weeks as we get to know the children better, and to celebrate the amazing little people that they are.

The "box" can be either digital or physical:

You can either email us a variety of pictures about your child and their experiences/ favourite things and families. Or you could make a box (usually a decorated shoe box) and place a few special items into it. You are very welcome to pick whichever format suits you best.

The items or pictures you wish to include **need to be ones that your child is able to talk about themselves**, so please involve them in the process. We have seen baby scan photos, baby pictures, first shoes, favourite toys, family photos, favourite books, holiday snaps and all sorts of wonderful things that show the child's experiences up to now. We do ask for **no more than 10** items or photos please.

We are asking for these to come into school from the week beginning **Monday 15th September**. We will typically look at a few boxes every day so we don't need everyone to be ready by Monday but as soon as you've created your box please send it in with your child. We will keep boxes in school for a couple of weeks before sending home.

Please use: cynets@meadows.worcs.sch.uk

or

goslings@meadows.worcs.sch.uk

to send digital boxes in.

Many thanks,

Mrs Tromans, Miss Pritchard & Mr Wilbrooke

