

This week we have introduced some changes to our lunchtime routines. Instead of sitting at different tables on different days, children now have set tables, with children having packed lunches and hot meals sitting all together. There is a mixture of year groups on the tables (although children are with at least one person from their own class) and encouraged to make polite conversation and use good table manners. The lunchtime supervisors are able to give table points out, and the table with the most table points in a week will become the following week's "top table", with something to signify their status for the following week.

We have also stopped children with packed lunches from throwing their rubbish in the bin. This is because we have been finding whole packets of sandwiches that have been thrown away, and we feel that it is important that you have some idea of what children have eaten at school. If they have something like a yoghurt pot that will make the lunch box messy after it's been eaten, we have said these can be thrown away, but otherwise rubbish needs to come home to you.

Since we started these changes on Monday, we have noticed that:

- The lunch hall is a little quieter
- Children are eating more (especially hot meals) – perhaps they are now focused more on eating than chatting?!
- Children are interacting more with those from other year groups, and some of our Year 3 and 4s are taking on a more mature role, looking after younger children and encouraging them to try new food or think about their behaviour.

We introduced our "lunchtime aspirations" – not rules, but aspects of behaviour we are asking children to strive for. These are:

- ↻ We sit and make polite conversations with our friends.
- ↻ We eat using our cutlery and we don't talk with our mouth full.
- ↻ We remember our manners, saying please, thank you and excuse me.
- ↻ If we need help we put our hands up.
- ↻ We clear our trays when we have eaten all our food.
- ↻ We listen to staff helping us at lunchtimes and follow instructions.
- ↻ We walk in the ballroom and use inside voices.

Value of the Week:

This week our value is all to do with our changes at lunchtimes, so we are celebrating politeness.

Those receiving certificates are:

Muhammad Jaddou, Jack Winters, Zoe Edwards, Livia Mazur, Toby Mann and Maja Cibinska.

Well done to you!

Our achievers of the week are...

Lily Maidment-Vint, Annabelle Morgan-Harris, Noah Ware, Max Kozlowski, Lewis Davies-Monk and Sophie Hunkin. Congratulations!

Walk to School Week is next week!

We are encouraging the children to go for a walk each day. There will be a prize for anyone who walks every day.

Race for Life:

On Friday 26th May (the day before half term), the whole school is taking part in Race for Life to raise money for Cancer Research. More details will follow next week, however sponsorship forms will be coming home with children today. It will be in the afternoon and we would like to invite parents and family members to come to support the race or take part with us.

Attendance

...for last week was 96.7%.

Year 1:

Year 1 will have a rather special week next week: every morning after phonics they will take part in a project week working with Miss Kyle and Mrs Reynolds. In the afternoons, they will be back in their usual classes.

Year 2:

Year 2 will also have a rather special week, spending time next week doing their "special work" where they will need to work without talking. They will notice that it is different – but hopefully they'll notice this for good reasons (such as the occasional biscuit break to keep them going!) rather than because they are feeling the pressure. Please speak to your child's teacher if you are worried. Please remember that these are not externally marked, and that these add to the picture that we build of the children's capabilities, so although these assessments are useful, they are only part of the whole. If your child is ill, they will have the chance to catch up the following week.

To celebrate SATs finishing the KS1 team have decided to throw a little party on Tuesday 23rd in the afternoon. Year 2 children have worked so incredibly hard and we would like to give them a chance to relax and eat some yummy delights. As a team we will provide movies and popcorn and children will be allowed to bring in lounge wear to get changed into for the duration of the afternoon. (Lounge wear could be onesies, pyjamas or anything cosy.) Sign-up sheets for party food will be around in the next week.... So keep your eyes peeled!

Thank you for all your support.

The KS1 Team

Year 3:

Year 3 are going to be doing their sculpture art project next week. It may be a good idea for parents to put an apron/old over shirt or t-shirt in their bag so that they don't get too mucky!

Reminders:

- Please remember to send in any Sainsbury's vouchers that you have collected as the deadline is fast approaching!
- Bicester Healthy New Town launch is this Saturday – see the information attached to last week's newsletter for more information.

Year 4 Café:

In year 4 we want to pilot 'bagel Friday' where children will share their morning snack together. This will also be a time when we have our PSHE lessons (Personal, social, health and economic education), where your child will develop their social skills, communicating with each other, improve relationships with their peers and build on their self-awareness.

The children will become monitors to provide the morning tea as café workers in the "kitchen" (back of the classroom). We ask for you to help by contributing to this with a cost of £3, which will go towards buying the food items needed, if you could, please place the money in a labelled envelope to pass on to the class teacher. We will have options of bagel or crumpets and spreads.

We will pilot this until the Summer break. If it is a success it is something we may put into place in the new school year for the older pupils in primary. We want to build on their independent skills, supporting one another and a time to reflect on our week with a focus on our social and emotional development.

If you have any questions, please speak to Mrs Dallas.

Reception:

Mrs Walker was out of class yesterday morning because the Reception data and the judgements of the team were being moderated by an external advisor. The moderator was very positive about the children's achievements and the hard work of all staff in the Reception team. She was also highly impressed by the contributions sent in by families – thank you to everyone for your hard work! On the subject of evidence, Mrs Walker would like to remind you to send in evidence of any technology used at home to add to the Profiles.

Reception are changing the way they use the learning pots in class. Children will now use them every morning except Monday, so please ensure the learning pots are in children's bags so the team can continue to add words and children can carry on making fantastic progress. Thank you.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 17th May – drop-in sessions for parents and carers: 2-3pm and 6-7pm

Have a lovely weekend! Mrs. Hughes