



MEMO – 10/9/18:

Good morning,

We are writing this memo to keep everyone informed on a few key matters:

- 1. Staffing news:** Upon the start of term, we welcomed all staff back to school, including those new to the school, being: Miss Pickup in Meerkat class, Mr Browne in Antelope class and Mr Gifford in Giraffe class. Having all been in for detailed handover days at the end of last term and working closely with colleagues across the holidays in preparation, we would now like to formally welcome them all to our school community. We also welcome Mr Fintan Lynn, who has joined our team as a support and intervention teacher. Mr Lynn will be teaching in Meerkat class every morning, and in the afternoons will be working with targeted children across the school, bridging key learning gaps, extending learning challenge and supporting skill acquisition. This is all part of the schools commitment to targeting our resources towards making the maximum learning impact for all of our children.
- 2. Site improvements:** Many of you will have noted that the play area remains taped off. We are now pleased to announce the full plans for the replacement of the play area. As a school, we are constantly aware of the need to develop the learning environment, alongside the learning provision. As a result the Governors and School have committed to replace the play area, also replacing the flooring with new rubber mulch. With prudent financial planning this has meant that, at the same time, we will also be making the reception outdoor grassed area into an all-weather surface, replacing the wooden ship with updated play equipment. Unfortunately, due to high demand from schools over the holiday period, this has meant that for us the work will be carried out during term time. The work will therefore be carried out from the 17th to the 28th September. Whilst works are carried out this will result in some shorter term use and accessibility changes in the playground, and the reception outdoor space, but on completion this will result in two great new areas within the school environment.
- 3. Roof maintenance:** During the summer we had extensive guttering work carried out within the courtyard. Whilst the scaffolding was up, a detailed inspection of the roof lights was also scheduled to be carried out. This has revealed that some pressing remedial work needs to be undertaken on the roof lights, meaning the builders will be in school for 3 ½ weeks, erecting scaffolding in the courtyard and working at height, outside of Giraffe classroom, the library and Breakfast/After School club room. We have a meeting this week with contractors to finalise arrangements, from which we can then plan a rotation of room usage in order to minimise disruption, with the plan being to fix one room at a time, allowing for rotation of available space. When we know more we will communicate this plan to all, being particularly relevant to parents in Giraffe class and users of Breakfast and After School club. Please be assured that we have already started planning and we foresee no change to provision; in the short term it will merely affect the rooms being used for that provision.

If there are any additional concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office.

Mr Bolton