

8th September 2017

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you have all had a great summer and are looking forward to a new school year. The children certainly seem to have been keeping themselves busy and are keen to share stories of their adventures. Below are some notices relating to the start of the year. We will continue to use the online 'Signhills News' and the playground notice boards to share information; I would urge you all to use these to stay up to date. The Signhills News site can be found at signhillsblog.wordpress.com (there is also a link on the school website) and you can 'follow' the site to have updates automatically sent to an email address. For Twitter users, you can follow us at @signhillsblog. We will also continue to use paper letters and texts as appropriate.

Free Counselling Service

We are very pleased to be able to offer a free counselling service to all parents/guardians/carers of pupils at our school. Abby is a trainee counsellor who is in her final year of her degree and is completing her placement with Fortis Therapy and Training and is providing free counselling within school. Fortis already work within our school with pupils and teachers and are an award winning service which provides therapy for all ages, training, mediation, supervision and reflective practice. The service is completely confidential and is provided in school on a Friday. If you are interested or would like further details, please contact Abby Smith directly on 07921403633 or talk to one of the Learning Mentors.

Jeans for Genes – Friday 22nd September

Please let your children wear their jeans to school with their uniform top to raise money and awareness for the thousands of children living with genetic disorders. If you would like to, please also send a £1 donation. More information can be found at jeansforgenes.org.

Free School Meals & the Pupil Premium

If you are in receipt of a qualifying benefit, your child will be eligible for free school meals and additional funding to support their learning. You will also benefit from financial help with residential trips. To check your eligibility for Pupil Premium (and Free School Meals), please follow the link on the academy website – in Parental Information - or ask a member of staff for further details.

Parents' Evening

This term's parents' evenings will take place on Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th October. Your child will bring a letter home to arrange the appointment.

Open Grammar & Punctuation Lessons

You, or other family members, are invited to work alongside your child in a 'normal' punctuation and grammar lesson. Please limit participants to a maximum of two adults per child and do not bring younger siblings.

Year 3	Tuesday 26th September	09:05 – 09:35
Year 4	Monday 25th September	09:05 – 09:35
Year 5	Thursday 28th September	09:05 – 09:35
Year 6	Thursday 28th September	09:05 – 09:35

Please use the main entrance to attend your child's open punctuation and grammar lesson.

Class Assemblies

Class assemblies again proved very popular last year, with all classes getting great support from parents, grandparents and other family members. The assemblies are a brief opportunity for the children to share the work they have been doing during the term. A list of this term's class assembly dates are shown below. All assemblies begin as soon as the children are in and registered at the start of the day. I realise that, for childcare reasons, it is sometimes necessary for younger siblings to come to the assemblies. Could I ask that, to avoid disrupting the assembly, if they become unsettled they are taken into one of the wings / corridor. Please come through the main entrance if you are able to join us.

Tuesday 3 rd October	Turtles	Mr Scott
Thursday 5 th October	Starfish	Mrs Willett
Tuesday 17 th October	Lobsters	Miss Waters
Thursday 19 th October	Dolphins	Miss Thompson
Thursday 7 th November	Sharks	Mrs Chapman
Thursday 9 th November	Sea Lions	Miss Clarke
Tuesday 14 th November	Swordfish	Mrs Abbott
Thursday 16 th November	Jellyfish	Mr Funnell
Tuesday 21 st November	Seals	Miss Teadgold

Thursday 23rd November

Barracudas

Miss Farr

Tuesday 28th November

Manta Rays

Mrs Ibbotson

Thursday 30th November

Seahorses

Miss Mortimer

If you have any questions about any of the events, please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Carr
Headteacher