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12<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Welcome Back!**

For once we have been lucky enough to have had summer weather in the summer holidays – what a pleasant surprise! I hope that you all were able to do something fun or relaxing during the past six weeks. Perhaps now is the time for you to relax...either way, I hope that you had the kind of summer that you wanted to!

I am so pleased and thankful that the changes to the school day have not caused any significant issues for you and the children's punctuality and attendance have not been adversely affected. Let's keep this going for the whole year!

I am pleased to report that our new children and staff have settled in well and everyone is working hard to get back into the swing of things immediately. Children's behaviour in and out of class has been excellent with many children already earning Surfs. There is a real buzz around school and staff and children alike are enjoying being back and pushing the learning on. If any children are finding the start of term difficult, we will let you know and if you could do the same, that would be really helpful. Effective communication is one of the best ways to ensure children are getting the best education they can; let's work together to ensure this happens.

### **The death of the Queen**

The sudden passing of the Queen came as a shock to us all. We are trying very hard to strike the right balance between mourning the death of our longest reigning monarch, celebrating the life of the Queen and also looking forward to the reign of King Charles III. Regardless of individual opinions on the monarchy, what is happening now is a historically significant event that the children will look back on in years to come. With this in mind, we believe it is right to spend time with the children discussing the current events and any associated feelings with them. If you would like more clarity around what this entails, please contact me.

As the Queen's funeral is due to be held on Monday September 19<sup>th</sup> and King Charles III has made this a bank holiday, the school will be closed on this day.



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**Please see the reminders below about the new school year:**

**Willow Class**

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 (24 children)

Miss Bates and Mrs Craft

PE is on a Monday (starting on 26/9) – children can come to school in PE kit on this day

**Maple Class**

Year 3 and Year 4 (20 children)

Miss Cook and Mrs Hellen

Swimming is every Monday.

PE is on a Wednesday – children can come to school in PE kit on this day

**Oak Class**

Year 5 and Year 6 (24 children)

Mr Price, Mrs Hooker and Miss Thomson

PE is on a Tuesday and Thursday – children can come to school in PE kit on **Thursday only**.

**Timings of the school day**

The government recently released guidance that states that all schools must provide a school week of 32.5 hours. In order for us to be compliant with this new expectation, we will be changing the start and end of the school day as set out below:

**8:40** Doors open (this is when we would prefer children to arrive)

**8:50** School starts - registration (all children must be here by this time)

**3:20** School finishes – children dismissed (children to be collected at this time)

These timings are for **all** children. **All** classes have the same school start and finish times.

**Clubs**

Clubs are now up and running. If you have missed the list or you want to add your child to a club, there are spaces still available. Please contact the office for a club letter.

**Swimming**

Maple Class (Years 3 and 4) will be swimming again from Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September. This will be every Monday for the whole year.



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