



SURFLEET PRIMARY SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Week Ending – 13th September 2024

Work Hard. Be Kind. Achieve!

Welcome back!

I hope that you all had a wonderful summer break and you spent some quality family time as and when you could. Even though it seems like a distant memory now, I remember the weather being pretty decent over the whole period, albeit with the odd windy and rainy day. I hope this was also your experience and you enjoyed plenty of outside time if that's your thing.

You will be pleased, but probably not surprised, to know that all children have settled back into the school routines well and school is a calm and purposeful place. The children have started as they mean to go and are upholding our school motto of 'Work Hard. Be Kind. Achieve' with many Surfs being given out. Well done to all on such a good start and long may it continue!

You may have noticed, or the children may have told you, that there have been some changes around school over the summer holiday period. I will outline these below:

Roof/use of front playground: Thanks to the support of the Keystone Academy Trust central team, we have had the guttering replaced on the front of the school as well as all of the guttering cleaned on the whole site. You'd be very surprised how many balls were found in the guttering! As part of this work, tile guards were installed along the front of the school to prevent any tiles falling from the roof. Now that these are in place, we are allowed full use of the front playground and entrance, which is brilliant news. I would like to thank you and your children for your support during the summer term when we were limited to only using the rear entrances and playground.

Heating changes: Due to extensive work behind the scenes by the central team, we are in the process of having our entire heating system replaced. Even though our school is small, it has been a huge task and the engineers will continue to be on site for a few more weeks completing the installation. During the holiday period, the efficient and professional engineering team were able to get all of the work inside the school completed so that no learning will be impacted by their presence. The area they are working in outside is fenced off and safe and they have completed all necessary checks to be on site at a primary school. Everything is safe, safe, safe!

I would like to thank the staff for being amazing and getting the whole school clean and tidy at the end of the summer holidays ready for the children's return last week. If you'd have seen the school on August 31st, you'd have never thought it would be ready, but with this amazing team, anything is possible.

Playground changes:

- The trim trail is now safe and operational again and the children have been enjoying using it when they are able to.
- The old playground sheds have been dismantled and the PTFA have very kindly offered to support improving the area to extend the school garden. The newly elected school council will be organising a competition for the children to design the new area. Exciting times ahead! I would like to thank the PTFA for coming in during the summer and helping take the sheds down. It was not as easy as we thought...
- The 'Castle'. We need this gone! If you or anyone you know would like to purchase this at an agreed price and would be able to remove it from the site, I would be forever grateful. Please get in touch if you would like to discuss this.

Next steps: We would like to re-energise the Outdoor learning area and we need some people that would be happy to lend a hand! If you could give up a couple of hours on a dry day in the near future and do some weeding, strimming or general tidying, then we can provide tea and biscuits (and maybe even cake)! If you think this is something you or someone you know could support us with, let us know and then we will pick a date.

Wraparound Care: If you are able to, can you please complete the questionnaire about your needs and wishes around before and after school care. Even if you don't need any wraparound care, all responses are important.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=EJb2q48jBkGLQ3BUzU66mqmv30-EoxBDqQFmw1KTIkxURUIBN01KUENUM0Y2TFpEWFVWVBRRjFMMS4u>

Finally.. I am so proud of being involved with your school and I think we all do a great job to improve the life chances of all of our children. It was very pleasing last June for OfSTED to also agree that we are a good school that offers a good education. Everything is going so well in our school, except – WE NEED MORE CHILDREN! We have had low intakes each of the last 3 years in Reception and whilst numbers are strong in Y3 to Y6, we would love to have more children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Our staff just want to help as many children as possible to be the best they can be and we have plenty of empty seats in Willow class. We would be so thankful if you could help us out by advertising our great school to your friends, family and on your social media accounts, if you are able to. More children = more money = potentially even more opportunities for your children! That is definitely not a bad thing!

STARS OF THE WEEK

WILLOW CLASS

- **Lilly-Ann C** for her positive attitude towards her writing and working hard to use her sound knowledge in her words.

MAPLE CLASS

- **Astija A** for settling in and picking up routines and expectations straight away and always offering a helping hand.

OAK CLASS

- **Millie C** for her fantastic contributions to all lessons and being an excellent role model to our new Year 5s

GOLDEN SURFS

- **Olivia L** for her English writing using prepositions, joined handwriting and commas correctly and consistently.
- **Connie E** for her English writing using prepositions, joined handwriting and commas correctly and consistently.



Upcoming events!



- **Weds 4th Sept** – First Day of Term 1.
- **Fri 18th Oct** – Last day of Term 1
- **Tues 29th Oct** – First day of Term 2

School Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy Sept 2023

Should you ever want to see a copy of our school's safeguarding and child protection policy, it is available to view on the school's website.