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Tilston Parochial CE Primary School

Headteacher: Mr Richard Harley
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Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome!

Welcome to a new academic year! I hope you all had a lovely summer and that you were able to spend time with your children, families and friends. We begin the school year by welcoming a number of new children and their families to our school and I hope they will quickly settle in at Tilston. Our new Reception pupils have made an excellent start and have been well supported by their Year 6 buddies, particularly at break and lunchtimes.

Ofsted Inspection

As most of you know, the school was inspected at the end of the last school year and we have received a letter from the inspector to confirm his judgements. We are delighted with the outcome of the inspection and Mr Shackleton's letter celebrates the school's many strengths, including its '*wonderful family ethos*'. He reports that we have '*maintained and further improved the good quality of education in the school since the last inspection*'. The findings of the inspection reflect all the work the school community has undertaken together and I'd like to thank staff, pupils, parents and governors for their combined and sustained support. A copy of the letter is being sent home to you today and it can also be viewed on our [school website](#).

Staffing

We have welcomed a new member of staff to the Tilston team this week alongside the return of a few familiar faces. Mrs Michelle Hughes has now joined us and will be working with our Year 3/4 class from Mondays to Thursdays. We are thrilled that Mrs Hughes is with us and she knows her class fairly well already, having worked with them as an associate teacher a couple of years ago. We welcome back Mrs Jo Callister, who will work alongside Mrs Hughes in Year 3/4 during the second half of the week, and Mrs Emily Berry who will now be based in the Year 1/2 class on Fridays.

As you are aware, the school will have a new headteacher after Christmas and Mrs Kelsey Mort will be visiting early next month to begin working with the leadership team, school staff and governors to ensure a smooth

transition. There will be opportunities for parents to meet Mrs Mort before she takes over in January and I will let you know when her visits will be taking place nearer the time.

Our Mission Statement

At this stage in the year, it's important for us to share with you the school's Mission Statement and Aims. With new families joining the school and many children moving into different classes, the staff are spending time talking through our shared vision, values, school rules and expectations. At Tilston, we strive to help every child achieve his/her best and we can only do this when we are working effectively with you. I would be grateful if you could take a few moments to remind yourselves of our shared vision:

Mission Statement and The Tilston Code

At the heart of Tilston School is a caring Christian family with one core purpose: to bring out the best in everyone.

Our school aims to:

- *Promote Christian values alongside a respect and understanding of other beliefs and cultures;*
- *Promote a love of learning;*
- *Provide a happy, stimulating and safe learning environment;*
- *Encourage the partnership between home, school, church and community;*
- *Provide a broad, creative and well-balanced education for all our pupils;*
- *Promote respect for each other, the environment and ourselves;*
- *Celebrate each child's uniqueness, progress and achievements;*
- *Encourage everyone to make healthy life choices;*
- *Prepare children for future challenges by encouraging them to take risks and be resourceful;*
- *Encourage all learners to be reflective and resilient.*

The children have been reminded of the Tilston Code, the school's guidelines for behaviour, and it might be useful for you to read through these bullet points and discuss them with your child. Thank you.

The Tilston Code

- Follow instructions the first time you are asked
- Allow others to work and play without interruption or disturbance
- Keep your hands and feet to yourself
- Always use kind words
- Move sensibly around school
- Treat people, property and our environment with respect



Meet the Teachers

In order for you to meet your child's class teacher/s and learn more about the routines, expectations and curriculum for the year, we will be running our usual 'Meet the Teacher' sessions straight after school in the next week or so. If you are available, do come along to these informative introductions. If you have any questions to ask, there will be an opportunity to speak to the staff. The sessions will run as follows:

Date and Time	Class/Year Groups	Teacher/s
Tue 12 th Sept @ 3.30 pm	Robins Y1/2	Mrs Bryan/Mrs Berry
Wed 13 th Sept @ 3.30 pm	House Martins Y3/4	Mrs Hughes/Mrs Callister
Thu 14 th Sept @ 3.30 pm	Wrens Nursery/Rec	Mrs Edwards
Mon 18 th Sept @ 3.30 pm	Kestrels Y5/6	Mrs Corlett

School Uniform

The children looked very smart in their uniforms this week and let's try to maintain these high standards throughout the year. Please make sure that all your child's clothes are clearly labelled so that we don't end up with a huge pile of lost property. Do encourage your child to be responsible for his/her own clothes and belongings. Thank you.

Lunch* Menu for week beginning 11th September 2017	
Monday	Beef burger in a bun with potatoes and beans/sweetcorn or cheese and bacon jackets
Tuesday	Pasta Bolognese with garlic bread or cheese and onion toasted sandwich with salad
Wednesday	Roast dinner
Thursday	Chicken curry with rice and naan bread or ham and tomato baguette with salad
Friday	Fish and chips or vegetable burrito and salad

* Please note, the cost of a school lunch is now £2.25.

Personal Development Goals

Within our curriculum, we do our utmost to promote the children's personal development and we will continue to focus on our eight 'essential' characteristics. These personal development goals are covered regularly and revisited throughout the year:

- 1) To try new things
- 2) To work hard
- 3) To concentrate
- 4) To push oneself



- 5) To imagine
- 6) To improve
- 7) To understand others
- 8) To not give up

This week, we have been looking out for children who **try new things**. Well done to the following pupils who have made a great start in this particular area:

Stars of the Week

YR	All the Wrens: for trying lots of new routines in their first week
Y1	William B: for using new maths equipment to create numbers
Y2	Max: for carrying out his new job with confidence
Y3	George: for settling into the House Martins class beautifully
Y4	Hermione: for showing the new Year 3 pupils how to be a perfect House Martin!
Y5	Bridget: for enjoying her new experiences in Year 5 with her Year 6 buddy
Y6	Oliver J: for enjoying his additional roles and responsibilities in Year 6

Healthy Snacks

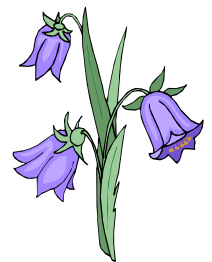
Our EYFS and KS1 pupils will continue to receive a piece of fruit at break time. Toast and a cuplet of juice are available to pupils in KS2 from Mrs Dutton and the cost is **55p**. If your child is bringing in a snack from home, please send in a healthy option such as fresh or dried fruit. Thanks.

Data Collection and General Consent

At this stage in the year, we need to ensure that all our records are up to date, so please return your data collection sheets and general consent forms as soon as possible. It would be very helpful if your child's lunch arrangements were filled in accurately on the data sheet. If you want to receive future newsletters electronically, please ensure that we have your current email address. We also use a text messaging service to keep in touch, so please check your mobile number on the paperwork. Many thanks.

Bluebell Nursery Stay and Play Sessions

This term's Stay and Play sessions will run from **10.00 until 11.30 am** on the following dates: **27th September, 25th October, 22nd November** and **20th December** (TBC). We have some places available in the nursery this term; please speak to Mrs Farmer or Mrs Edwards if you have a child ready to start.



Thank You

I am certain that this new academic year will be another successful one for Tilston School. I'd like to thank the wonderful staff team for all their hard work in preparing for the school year and you as parents and carers for your continued support. We are looking forward to working together with you to '*bring out the best*' in all the children at Tilston School!

Yours sincerely

Richard Harley
Mr R Harley