



5th September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to school. I hope you have all had an enjoyable summer and are ready for a year of continued improvement.

I am sure you will all join me in welcoming the new staff to school and hope they enjoy their time here at Harden Primary School.

The staff have been working hard over the last few weeks to ensure that the learning environments are of a high quality and their planning is exciting and will continue to raise expectations.

We want to ensure that parents feel fully informed about their child's education and the progress they are making. We are therefore holding 3 events this term to give you vital information at the beginning of the year.

We are holding a curriculum evening for parents on Wednesday 20th September 2017 at 3.15pm, 4.00pm, 5.30pm and 6.00pm. After listening to parents' feedback, we are offering more sessions to enable as many parents as possible to attend and be able to attend more than one session if they have children in different year groups. During these sessions you will find out what your child will learn, how they will be assessed and how you can help them at home. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions. Please attend if possible as vital information about the year will be given out during these sessions.

Parents' evenings will take place on the 8th November 2017, 3.15pm until 7.30pm and 9th November 2017, 3.15pm until 5.00pm. Sign up information will be given at a later date. The parents' evening will give you an opportunity to discuss your child's progress and how they have settled into their new class.

We are also holding a Maths workshop for parents on 1st November 2017 at 3.15pm until 4.00pm and again at 6.00pm until 6.45pm. Please save the date, more information will be given later.



Over the next week you will receive a newsletter from your class teacher outlining the teaching that has been planned over the next term. This will be emailed to you.

As you may remember, at the last parents evening we carried out a survey on homework. This showed the majority of parents were happy with their children having spellings, number Zumba and reading homework and a small amount of parents thought the project style homework was worthwhile. As a staff we have looked at the comments on the surveys and decided to keep the spellings, number Zumba and reading homework as we can see the benefits to the children in the classroom, and introduce talking homework. Talking homework is where the class teacher will pose a question related to the topic and the children will find a possible answer. This can be just given back in an oral way, written down or presented in a way the child feels comfortable with. We want to make the homework accessible to everyone and for everyone to feel they can participate. If you would like any more information then please speak to your class teacher.

The new website should be going live shortly; we will send you more information as we know it.

If you have any questions then please don't hesitate to contact a member of staff. We are all here to help.

The staff look forward to continuing to work with you as partners in educating your child.

Yours sincerely,

Kirsty Hutchinson
Headteacher