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| logo | | Autumn Term 2021  Issue 1 22.09.2021 | |
| **Welcome back to school EVERYONE!**  The children have made a great start back and have quickly settled into their new classes and routines. They are showing great resilience with their learning and are producing some lovely pieces of work.  The children are enjoying playing with new friends at playtime and it has been wonderful to see our older children supporting their younger friends and siblings.  Well done to the children, parents and staff! | | **Enlarged Nursery Room**  Over the summer, our Nursery room at the front of the school building was enlarged. A dividing wall has been removed, creating a bright room with plenty of ventilation. The room has been recarpeted and will be redecorated in the October half term holiday.  We would very much like to make this space available once a week to a baby and toddler group. An email will be sent home about this next week. | |
| **Safeguarding Updates:**  All staff attended safeguarding training on Monday 6th September. Every member of staff now has a clear understanding of their safeguarding responsibilities and is aware of the updated DfE document: Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021 (statutory guidance produced for schools and colleges). | | | |
| **KS2 Play Leaders:**  This half term, a group of class 4 volunteers will be teaching our younger children new games and activities at playtime.  They are being trained every Thursday afternoon by our new sports coach, Thomas Slack.  Next half term, the children in class 3 will be offered the same opportunity.  **Our play leaders this half term are: Thomas, Emelia, Eliza, Jazmin, Corissa, Megan, Gabriel, Finley, Logan and William.** | **C:\Users\2325lrainey\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.MSO\96B06E9.tmp** | | **Buddy Benches**  We have two new rainbow buddy benches in the playground.  The children are encouraged to sit on these if they need a friend to play with. All the children know to look out for children who may be feeling lonely or in need of a playmate. |
| **Exciting Playground Redevelopment**  We are pleased to announce that at the end of September, we are employing a specialist company to redevelop two of our outdoor play areas.  The children helped in the design process and shared their ideas with the school parliament.  We have invested in an outdoor gym, which will be installed in the main playground adjacent to the school allotment. The gym equipment will be surrounded by a soft surface (wet pour) and will be accessable to every year group at different times throughout the week.  We have also arranged to have a super new climbing structure (with slide) installed in our Early Years outdoor classroom.  We will keep you updated about the installation process. Work will start on Monday 27th September and will be completed on Thursday 30th September. | | |
| **Thank you!**  Thank you to Mr Potts for making four super picnic tables for the school yard. |
| **New members of the staff team**  It has been great to welcome Mrs Fairbairn (office administrator), Miss Priestly (Reception and Early Years TA), Miss Wincote (class 3 TA), Miss Grant (cleaner) and Miss Kelly (class 4 TA) to our school. They have settled in very quickly and are super additions to our staff team. | **Dates for the Diary:**  October Half Term: Saturday 23rd October – Sunday 31st October  Monday 15th- Wednesday 17th November: Class 4 Robinwood Residential  Wednesday 15th December: Whole school pantomime visit.  Christmas Holiday: Saturday 18th December – Tuesday 4th January. Back to school Wednesday 5th January. | | |
| **Congratulations!**  Congratulations to Mrs Walker and her family on the birth of baby Lottie. Lottie was born during the summer holiday and is doing really well. | | **Covid 19**  Please could everyone be extra-vigalent about social distancing and handwashing. We are aware of several cases of Covid 19 within Belford village and our school community. Please can adults wear masks when dropping off and picking up children from school. Thank you. |