



John Ray Infant School

"learning together, aiming high, proud to be ourselves"

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Apologies in the delay to this newsletter. Last week was an exceptionally busy week.

It was lovely to walk around and see the progress the children are making in lots of areas of the curriculum. I was lucky enough to spend some time in our 'pop up' nursery in the hall and meet some of our new children who have settled in brilliantly. Some of them are only two and I was so impressed that a pair were setting up a game of skittles independently, whilst others explored some of the other lovely resources in this larger area.

Children in EYFS have now learnt lots of new sounds and it was lovely to hear them reading some words by themselves and some are putting their new knowledge together to create written words too – it is amazing how far they have come and how well they are settled in such a short time. Some of them were very proud to talk about which 'learning spoon' they were demonstrating – lots of persevering pigs!

When in Year One I enjoyed looking at their writing books and flicking from the first page to their current work. The progress shown is great and I have had lots of visitors for 'headteacher awards' where classteachers have recognised the efforts children are making.

Year Two have been continuing their work on 'Brilliant Braintree' and have visited both the library and the public gardens. I liked reading their 'rules' for the school trip, using commands to ensure that everyone would be safe and remember all that they needed.

Thank you to those of you who shared information about our Open Day which was this Saturday for prospective parents. We had lots of new families visit who all fed back how warm and welcoming the school felt. If you know of anyone who is looking for their child to start school in September 2023 then please encourage them to ring the office and book a tour. I am always so proud when people get to see the school in action.

As we approach half-term just a reminder that this Friday (21st) is 'Break the Rules Day', children may wear non-uniform and style their hair, wear jewellery etc in ways they would not normally be allowed to! The money raised is going towards funding the coaches for the Year Two trip to see the Lion King in July in order to keep costs lower for parents. This will be an annual event so all children will experience this during their time at John Ray.

I hope you have a lovely week and as always catch me on the gate if you have anything you would like to share.

L Christian

Headteacher

