



Lee-on-the-Solent Junior School

'Happy School, High Standards'

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

It's been a busy first five days... I mentioned in my first assembly that I wanted to try and learn all of the children's names by half term. As a result some of the children have been trying to help me – sometimes by asking me to guess what their name is without any clues!

Most of the children around the school have been respectful, for example, by holding the door open for adults as they pass through or replying to a greeting with one of their own. This reflects one of the school's values – respect – and is something to be celebrated.

Unfortunately, it has been brought to our attention that there is a group of children who have started coming onto the school site during the evenings and weekends to play football. The noise generated from the game has led to concerns being raised by a couple of local residents. It is highly likely that it is a group of older children who are not part of our school community, but just in case some of our children are involved, please could you ensure that no child enters the school site outside of school hours. Your support in this matter would be greatly appreciated by all concerned.

In my first week I have managed to visit classrooms every day and I believe that the children are getting used to me dropping in to talk to them. There have been a few whispered "It's the Head Teacher... Ssshhh!" but the number of times this is happening has lessened over the week.

Through talking with the children I am able to say that most enjoy the opportunities for learning and participate well during lessons. I have heard some high quality discussions taking place across the school which has led to some examples of effective learning. For example, following a talk from a visitor in Year 5 the children were given the opportunity to respond in a variety of ways and as a result deepened their understanding of some of the issues that were raised. This was a delight to see and is not the only example I could have given of where staff have created opportunities for children to learn well and in a way that deepens their understanding. I am sure that over time there will be many other examples that I am able to share with you.

This brings me onto our new Twitter and Facebook feeds which have gone live today. These will enable us to provide updates on school life and will hopefully be an accessible way of doing so. Both accounts will have the same content so you can choose which one you would



rather use. Our Twitter handle is @LeeSolentJun and you can find our Facebook page by searching for @LeeontheSolentJun.

There will be plenty of examples of children's work and celebrations of their achievements. I hope that that both Twitter and Facebook will prove helpful in keeping you informed about some of the things that are happening around school. Please be assured that all photos will comply with safeguarding advice and will not place children at risk in anyway.

Please do not use Twitter or Facebook to raise any concerns that you may have. These should be raised either through contacting the class teacher directly or via the school office.

In my first letter to parents I mentioned that I would be sending out a parent questionnaire. It would be great if as many parents as possible completed this as it will help with forward planning. To save paper and hopefully time I have created an online questionnaire. It can be completed via a desktop computer or a mobile phone.

Here is the link:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=MW9qjm4H0UKyZdTxE3b4pEg-eETV0bAc5UMk44VEhMNIhHSENSTU5QVkpWMjM0STFWNS4u>

The survey is open now and will close at 9 p.m. on the evening of Monday 8th May. Once the survey is finished I will publish the results as soon as possible afterwards along with some thoughts on how they will inform our school improvement plan for the next academic year. If you are unable to complete the survey online a paper copy will be available from the school office.

Finally, thank you to all the parents who I have spoken with and who have made me feel very welcome during the time I have been walking round the site before and after school. I will continue to introduce myself to as many of you as possible over the next few weeks. Have a good long weekend and fingers crossed that it warms up a bit!

Yours sincerely,

Darren Nickerson

Mr D Nickerson
Headteacher

