



Welcome back everyone!

6 September 2017

I hope you all had a wonderful summer! I thought I'd start the year with a 'Welcome' newsletter as we say hello to all our new families.

It was **lovely** to see all the children on Monday - looking so smart and ready for a new year. It was great to welcome all our new children too - we have 24 new reception pupils in Diamond Class and other classes have gained new pupils too.

We are lucky this year to have 6 classes and we have 2 new teachers - Mrs Richards, who will be teaching Sapphire Class along with Miss Royce our trainee teacher from Bath Spa University, and Mrs Bennett, who is sharing Emerald Class with Mrs Evans who we are pleased to have back after her maternity leave.

It's an exciting time as we look forward this year with our **'BIG PLAN'**.

To inform those families who are new to our school:- over the last three years we have been developing three aspects of our school, around learning - **'Learning without Limits'** and behaviour for learning - **'The 7Rs'**, we also launched our **'Christian Values'**.

As we start the new year we are now ready to put all this together as our **'Big Plan'** and the way forward for our school. We have linked all that we do to our vision statement for our school which is: **Learning, Community and Friendship.**

This then explains the 'essence' of Kingshill Church School. All three aspects are intertwined and underpinned by our fundamental values.

KINGSHILL CHURCH SCHOOL - THE BIG PLAN

Learning



We believe in Learning Without Limits - **everyone** can learn and **everyone** can be challenged.

We learn how to:

- Problem solve
- Work together
- To be flexible
- Investigate
- Face challenges

Our curriculum is child-centred and relevant, promoting curiosity and excitement through discovery. It promotes high standards and aspirations and will enable children to be resourceful, resilient and reflective.

Community

We use the 7Rs across our school. To have a successful learning community we need to be:

- Resilient
- Resourceful
- Reflective
- Responsible
- Reliable
- Respectful
- Risk-takers



We learn **together** in our community groups each term.

We enjoy links with the wider community:

- Christ Church
- Bannerman Road School
- Hope Missions Malawi
- Ravenswood School
- Argentum Lodge

Friendship



We care about each other and about the world.

Our Christian Values underpin all we do:

Wisdom, Humility, Friendship, Peace, Reverence, Compassion, Justice, Forgiveness, Fellowship, Trust, Thankfulness, Hope, Creation, Service, Endurance.

We learn about these values in Collective Worship and in our classes.

We live by the British Values of: Democracy, The Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance

Please check our website for information about the school. We endeavour to keep it up to date and to add events and information as soon as we know about them. You will find information for example about the Curriculum. This term the class topics are: Diamond - 'All about me', Opal - 'What's the Story?', Amber and Sapphire - 'Why weren't Norman Castles Bouncy?' and Emerald - 'Crime and Punishment'. I am looking forward to seeing some amazing learning.

We are focusing of course, as always, on achieving the **highest standards possible** for each child in our school. Our expectation is that **everyone** can learn, **everyone** can be challenged and **everyone** can improve and achieve. Parents play such an important part in a child's learning; you can support your child by: encouraging him/her to read as much as they can at home, and to complete his/her home learning, talking about what they are learning at school and encouraging them to learn even more at home!

Our School Development Plan sets out our priorities from the coming year and I have attached a summary for you. We are really focussing on developing Reading and encouraging children to read widely especially in this technological age where books and stories are often forgotten! With writing, we continue to raise expectations in terms of spelling, vocabulary and the quality of the content of written work. In maths we are developing 'APE' maths - which means 'Answer, Prove, Explain - children talking about their understanding of mathematical concepts. We are excited to continue with Forest School and Mrs Davies is now a fully qualified Forest School Teacher so she will be leading in this area. PE features strongly again and we will be trying for our Gold Award this year. So many exciting things to look forward to!

As you know we are part of the Bath and Wells Multi Academy Trust and have been since April 2013. The MAT has grown a lot since then and there are now 19 schools in the 'family'. In North Somerset we now have a 'hub' consisting of six schools: Kingshill, Court de Wyck (Claverham), St John the Evangelist (Clevedon), St Mark's (Worle), St George's (Worle) and Churchfield (Highbridge). Our schools work very closely together - our children attend shared events and our staff meet and share in professional development and as in most Local Authorities and other MATs. Headteachers across the Bath and Wells Multi Academy Trust work alongside each other in different schools as and when necessary and this is an important and valuable part of being in a 'family' of schools and a natural part of headship. Last year for example I spent some time each week at Churchfield School in Highbridge.

From the end of October I will be working closely with Court de Wyck School in Claverham, as the Headteacher, Mrs Nickells, is moving to another MAT school as Interim Headteacher. I will spend some time at Court de Wyck each week and it will become our 'partner school'. It's a very exciting prospect, as both schools will learn so much from each other and this will hugely benefit our children and our staff.

I look forward to meeting more of our new parents and indeed if any parent needs to speak to me then please contact the office to make an appointment or catch me on the playground!

Mrs Thomson
Headteacher