



Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Dear Parents

How quickly September has gone - it is hard to believe that we are already nearly in October!

It has been just over three weeks since school started back, and during this time I, along with Mr McDonald, have been assessing current school structures to ensure that they provide the best environment for the children to thrive in.

Having watched lunchtimes, we felt that these could be improved to enable a clearer timetable and give a better lunchtime experience for the children. At the moment, some children go out to play, come back in to eat and then go back out to play again, and this movement from one place to another takes quite a bit of time. Furthermore, sitting times for these children can vary a little, depending on how long some of the other children are taking to eat. This then has an impact on the amount of time some of our children are getting to play out at lunch – which lots of the children are very unhappy about!

In order to improve this, from when we get back next term (from 30<sup>th</sup> October) there will be two lunchtime periods:

- Reception, Y1, Y2 & Y3 will have their lunch from 12pm – 1pm. All children will eat straight away, and spend the rest of the lunchtime having a play.
- Y4, Y5 & Y6 will have their lunch from 12.30pm – 1.30pm. All the children will eat straight away and spend the rest of the lunchtime having a play.

This will minimise congestion on the playground for the majority of the lunchtime period, will mean that the children can eat as soon as their morning lessons are complete, and give the children a consistent playtime with their friends.

As the afternoons will be shorter for Yr 4-6 once this is in place, we will be removing afternoon play for children in Year 4, 5 & 6 after the half term, so that the children have time to really get into their creative curriculum learning. This is standard in schools within the Trust and, indeed, across most schools within Northampton. Please rest assured, however, that the children will get opportunities for brain break activities within the afternoon.

Many thanks for the support that we have received from you in these first few weeks. If you have any questions, please do email, or catch me outside at the start or end of the day.

Best wishes

Tracey Coles

Principal