

Dear Parents and Carers, 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024

I hope this letter finds you well. As we are now two weeks into the new term, I wanted to take a moment to thank you for the warm welcome I have received and to update you on some positive developments at Larkspur.

The children have made an excellent start to the year, settling into their new routines with enthusiasm. It has been a joy to witness their excitement as they engage with their learning in a calm and happy atmosphere, which I believe lays a strong foundation for the year ahead. They have loved the new spaces to play at lunchtimes and the opportunities to mix with friends from other classes. If you haven't joined our new Facebook page - Larkspur Community Primary School - yet, please do so, we are updating it regularly and you can see how well they have settled.

Thank you to those parents and guardians who attended our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions. Your involvement in your child's education is invaluable. For those unable to attend, we will share the presentations on the class pages of the website, for your reference.

I would also like to thank our dedicated staff who have supported me as I settle into my role as headteacher. Their commitment to fostering a positive environment for our children is wonderful to be part of.

You may have heard we have implemented a new behaviour policy which encompasses our Larkspur values of **Love, Acceptance, Respect, Kindness, Support, Positivity, Understanding and Resilience** and is based on giving **'First Attention to Best Conduct'**. At Larkspur we now have just 3 school rules:

- **Ready**: This means being in school on time, prepared for each lesson, having the necessary equipment, and approaching learning with a positive mindset.
- Respectful: We encourage our children to show respect towards their peers, teachers, and the learning
  environment. This encompasses listening attentively, valuing others' opinions, and taking care of school
  property.
- **Resilient**: We want our students to develop the ability to persevere when faced with challenges. Instilling resilience will empower them to tackle difficulties head-on and learn from their experiences.

It has been a pleasure to meet so many new faces during these first few weeks. I am present in the schoolyard each morning, and I warmly invite any parents who have yet to introduce themselves to come and say hello.

We are continuing the roll out of our new school system, Arbor, which we have already started to use for email and text communications. We will soon ask all parents and carers to download the App or use the parent portal to update your details, give permissions, sign up for clubs, book parent meetings, make payments and much more. Look out for another communication about this shortly.

I do want to apologise for the postponement of the childcare club, this is due to funding challenges, but I am pleased to inform you that a range of extracurricular activities will be available soon.

Lastly, please join us for the **Macmillan Coffee Morning** on **27th September**. A wonderful opportunity to support a great cause, as well as having a coffee, chat, cake and some fun playing bingo.

Thank you for your continued support, I'm excited to see what we can achieve together this year at Larkspur.

Katy Anglesea
Headteacher