

# SEPTEMBER 2020

Dates  
for your



## Diary Dates Week Commencing 14th September 2019

- Monday 14th September - Forest School for Kestrel Class  
- Kestrel & Eagle Board Games after school club pick-up 4:15  
- Merlin Stay & Play after school club pick-up 4:15
- Tuesday 15th September - Whole school sport pm  
- After school Sports Club pick-up 4:15
- Wednesday 16th September - Kestrel & Eagle 24 Maths after school club pick-up 4:15  
- Merlin Board Games after school club pick-up 4:15  
- After school club Sewing pick-up 4:30
- Thursday 17th September - Kestrel & Eagle STEM after school club pick-up 4:15  
- Merlin Fimo Clay after school club pick-up 4:15
- Friday 18th September - Year 5/6 Mad Hatters Book club pick-up 4:15  
- Merlin Lego after school club pick-up 4:15

## Diary Dates Week Commencing 21st September 2020

- Monday 21st September - Forest School for Eagle Class  
- Kestrel & Eagle Board Games after school club pick-up 4:15  
- Merlin Stay & Play after school club pick-up 4:15
- Tuesday 22nd September - Whole school sport pm  
- After school Sports Club pick-up 4:15
- Wednesday 23rd September - Kestrel & Eagle 24 Maths after school club pick-up 4:15  
- Merlin Board Games after school club pick-up 4:15  
- After school club Sewing pick-up 4:30
- Thursday 24th September - Kestrel & Eagle STEM after school club pick-up 4:15  
- Merlin Fimo Clay after school club pick-up 4:15
- Friday 25th September - Year 5/6 Mad Hatters Book club pick-up 4:15  
- Merlin Lego after school club pick-up 4:15



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*An Inspirational setting where all children flourish.'*

## 11th September 2020 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the first newsletter of the year! The staff team and I would like to welcome you all once again and especially those of you new to our school. We hope you and your children will be very happy here. We do a newsletter such as this every two weeks and it includes useful dates, information and photographs of the things children have been doing in school.

This week Eagle Class have been working really well for Miss Edwards, who as you will know is standing in for Mr Tylour as he is still in quarantine until next week. Miss Edwards has been very impressed with the children's attitudes to learning and with their excellent standard of behaviour. I would like to thank Miss Edwards for standing in at short notice and for her hard work this week - she will be back as our regular supply teacher when we next need cover. Mrs Kyte has spent her first mornings in school and we are delighted to have her in our team.

In Kestrel class, children have settled in well, setting up their new drawers and tables and getting used to sitting 'the other way around' now that we have had our touch screen, interactive boards fitted. Each of the 4 classrooms has a new interactive 'BenQ' board. Staff are still learning about all of the things it can do to enhance learning. Merlin class have got off to a flying start too. Children have come back to school with confidence and enthusiasm. Even our new Reception and Nursery children feel like they've been here forever! Year 1 and 2 children have shown us their confident speaking and reading skills as well as impressive counting and predicting skills. They've also completed pastel self-portraits this week. We'll send you pictures shortly!

If you have any questions or concerns please do contact your child's class teacher, they will be happy to help. We don't mind the odd positive comment too! If your child has additional needs, a support plan or My Plan Mrs George our SENDCo will be in touch shortly to arrange a time to review provision. If your child was waiting for an assessment prior to lockdown we will action these as soon as we can. Where we find we have children who have catch up needs we will begin to formalise plans for this in the next couple of weeks.

The Theme for the whole school this term is called 'The Street Beneath Our Feet'. Theme overviews went home last week and we are looking forward to sharing work with you as we go along.

We are still not sure of the position regarding offsite school trips this term. They are technically allowed but the transport could be a potential issue and also the venues we would like to visit are not yet fully open. We will keep you posted about this.

Forest School started this week for Merlin class. Next week it will be Kestrel class and the week after Eagle class. If you would like to be a parent helper, please let us know. We would also love a couple more helpers for the next Merlin Forest School. Whole class Music lessons with Gloucestershire Music start next week with Garage Band for Eagle class each Friday for terms 1 and 2. Kestrel class will start Viola lessons in the week commencing 21<sup>st</sup> September and Year 1 and 2 children in Merlin class will start Infant Strings in the same week. There is a general concern that we may need earplugs in the early sessions as a whole class of children use a bow on a string at the same time - if you live locally listen out! We are immensely grateful to all in the FOSS team for funding these whole class ensemble sessions.

PE sessions, if the weather is fine, will take place at the Cricket pitch from next week. It is really important that your child has a water bottle in school on that day. We still have a few children who are not bringing bottles to school.

On the subject of food, please can we remind you once again that we now have pupils with nut allergies in school. Strictly no nuts are to be brought into school. This week we have still seen 4 children with nuts in their snack or lunch boxes. Please help us with this.

If you would like your child to attend an after school club and haven't yet signed up then please do contact Mrs Powell, we have a few spaces available in most clubs. At the moment under government guidance we are allowed to run clubs after school and will continue to do so for as long as we are able.

FOSS fundraising this year is also going to need your full support as many of the events won't be able to go ahead and these raise valuable funds that are spent directly on your children. Please read the separate letter from FOSS that includes more detail. In school we will do some events to help raise funds for FOSS and will be in touch shortly with more detail.

As mentioned in a previous letter, we have made some alterations to the assembly schedule this term. There will be 3 assemblies each week. Whole school singing assemblies take place outside, as does Celebration assembly. At the current time we are really sorry but we are unable to have parents stay for Celebration assembly - we will let you know if this becomes possible. Our faith based or values assemblies this year will be delivered weekly by teachers in classrooms but planned centrally using resources taken from <https://www.assemblies.org.uk/index.php>. We will send out the schedule once it is complete. This week the assembly was 'All different, all special'. Next week it is 'New Challenges'. If the prayer at the end is read, children are always told they can say Amen to make the prayer their own, or not, as they wish.

Next week, and postponed from the summer term, we have wildlife photographer Iain Green coming to work with the children in school. We will be working outside in class bubbles and following distancing guidelines. The digital cameras he is bringing for children to use will be sanitised between groups. Children will also sanitise their hands before and after use. Children will be taught how to take close up photographs of the wildlife and nature around us and will look at some of Iain's work. We will then be putting together an exhibition of photographs the children have taken, these will be available to purchase at a later date. I have worked with Iain before in a previous school and the children really enjoyed the session.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and that the weather stays fine.

Kind regards

Vicky Barron - Headteacher



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**Eagle class self portraits**



Our new school children