Dear Parents,

We are very pleased to be welcoming all the new children and parents to Beech Class and West Tytherley School this September. I hope you and your child have a wonderful summer. I look forward to seeing you during the home visits and greeting your child on their first day of school on Monday 7th September at 8.45 am.

Our focus during the first term will be on getting to know each other, the school and settling into our routines. We will be basing our learning around the topic 'What is important to me?'. This theme will allow us to discuss our emotions, differences, strengths, interests, families, and how we can keep healthy and strong.

The children will engage in various activities, exploring the classroom environment and participating in specific challenges designed to enhance their knowledge and understanding. We will incorporate group activities, whole class teaching, storytelling, singing and games to foster a productive and enjoyable learning atmosphere.

Book Bags: We kindly ask that children do not bring toys into school; however, they may attach a small key ring to their book bag to help them recognise it. Please ensure that book bags are brought to school every day, as letters and correspondence from the school office will be placed inside. Remember to check and remove any letters, returning forms to the office or handing them to a member of staff.

Snacks and Drinks: The school will provide fruit, water, and milk (if requested) for your child. Please ensure your child brings a named water bottle daily.

House Points: House points can be earned for following the school's expectations, being brave, trying new things, completing individual targets, and being kind and helpful. House points are counted each week and any awards earned are handed out during our celebration assembly on a Friday at 2.45pm in King Edward's Hall. Families are always welcome to attend.

PE Kit: Children should keep their PE kit in school, which will be sent home at the end of each half-term for washing.

Outdoor Learning: We are excited for the children to take their learning outdoors every day. Please ensure they come dressed appropriately for the weather, with items such as coats, warm hats, sunscreen, and sun hats as necessary. On Friday afternoons, they will participate in Forest School activities on the school grounds, requiring wellies and a change of clothes that can get muddy.

Tapestry: Tapestry will be operational during the first week of school, and you should receive an activation email. If you do not receive it, please let me know. We encourage you to document any 'wow moments' from home on Tapestry - these are significant milestones in your child's development, such as using a knife and fork, riding a bike, or sharing with a sibling.

Homework: Children will be asked to revise the sounds and tricky words they have been learning in class. This information will be sent home every Friday. Additionally, please practise recognising numbers 1-5 with your child.

Reading: Once they are ready, children will begin receiving school reading books. We ask that you read these books three times, discussing the pictures and sharing ideas. Guidance on activities and questions is provided at the front and back of the book. Please record these reading sessions in your child's reading diary, noting how they enjoyed their book. Your child will also come home with a sharing library book of their choice, which you can share together. These books will be changed as often as you share them at home. Kindly remember to remove any other items from the book bag daily, such as artwork, paintings, and treasures made in school.

I hope your child enjoys their first term at school and that you will enjoy hearing about their activities in class. Exploring the photos on Tapestry or in our school newsletter can encourage your child to discuss their exciting learning opportunities.

I look forward to working with you closely. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do catch me after school or arrange an appointment with the office.

Kind regards,

Mrs Owena Archer