

# ***WHALEY BRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL***

September, 2016

Dear All

We hope you have had a relaxing and enjoyable summer. The ER team are looking forward to an exciting term ahead of us and are delighted to welcome two new pupils to the ER.

As always, our emphasis in the ER is on literacy and numeracy with additional ICT, DT and PE sessions. We will continue to follow a programme of Physical Literacy in order to aid the children's development as motivated, competent, confident and healthy movers. This is supported by regular 'Dough Disco' and 'Squiggle while you Wiggle' sessions which are not only popular but help develop the core strength and dexterity necessary for good gross and fine motor skills. We are noticing a beneficial effect on everyone's handwriting and co-ordination and we are all feeling fitter and stronger.

This year we will be swimming on Tuesdays and Fridays so please ensure your child has their swimming kit on these days. PE kits need to be in school every day and we would also ask you to ensure that your child comes to school with suitable outdoor clothing as our lessons are conducted outside whenever it is appropriate.

This term our topic will be 'The Family'. We will be looking at and celebrating different types of families, extended families, family life in this country and in other countries and of course families within the animal kingdom, especially those described in high quality children's literature. With this in mind our literary focus will be on the Large Family in the Jill Murphy books, in particular 'Five Minutes Peace'. Jill Murphy's astute and humorous observations of the trials and tribulations of family life will provide us with many different themes to consider including the importance of sharing, tolerance, understanding, teamwork and cooperation. We look forward to exploring these themes with the children in our circle time sessions and incorporating them into many different literacy, maths, art and drama activities. For details of these, please see the ER Topic Web which is displayed in the entrance to the ER and a copy of which will be in your child's book bag.

As always, we will be working closely and coordinating with the children's class teachers in order to fine tune the care and tuition your child receives. Thank you for all the work you continue to do to support us at home: reading regularly and practising spellings each week makes such a difference. As always, please feel free to pop in to the ER anytime if you have any concerns or would like to talk to a member of the ER team.

Best wishes

Mrs Shone, Mrs Adams, Mrs Barnet, Miss Bush and Mrs Moorcroft.

(Enhanced Resource)