



28.11.2016

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Dear Parent and Carers,

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK will focus upon our specialised Science Week learning of Healthy Body leads to a Healthy Mind. Thank you to all our parents who have come into school to share their profession with the children. It has been a valuable experience, whereby children have benefited from hearing about a variety of important health issues.

Mrs Hothi will continue with the theme running through her Yoga lessons and encouraging the children to adopt mindfulness activities when they are feeling anxious or angry about things.



VALUES OF gratitude and
self- discipline

YOGA and MINDFULNESS

Key Stage 1- Will start the class with the yogi poki sun salutations. The learning will focus upon team work so the children will be in pairs as they undertake different yoga poses. They will help each other as they balance and stretch. The children will understand the words for tree pose (vrkasana), shoulder stand sarvangasana and dancer (natarajasana).

Key Stage 2 – Will start the class with pranayam, followed by sun salutations and practice building upon their sequence from last week. They will also explore what teamwork is by reading a variety of quotations and then they will do a yoga asanas together in a group. The children will work together in a team and help each other. At the end of the class they will know the English and Sanskrit name for the poses carried out with their partners. These are: tree- vrkasana, dancer- natarajasana, warrior 3- virabhadrasana, boat- navasana and chair- utkatasana.

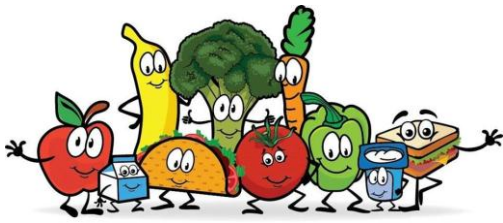
Namasté

I offer you peace.
I offer you love.
I offer you friendship.
I see your beauty.
I hear your need.
I feel your feelings.
My wisdom flows
from the Highest Source.
I salute that Source in you.
Let us work together
for unity and love.



Mahatma Gandhi





SCIENCE WEEK The aim is to encourage all children to participate in lots of science based investigations and to grab their imagination and enthusiasm. Throughout the learning we hope to:

- encourage the children to see themselves as scientist
- show how important science is in our lives
- encourage science learning through cross curricular links
- promote learning with parents and carers
- show- case and celebrate individual learners, share success and enthusiasm.

We would like to welcome you in to come and help out during the week if you have any spare time - no prior knowledge necessary. Science and technology is all around us. You may be in a profession where you use science every day. Please come and talk to your child's class about your job. The children would gain much knowledge from your career and feel inspired too.

If your profession is related to health and fitness, please come and talk about your job. The children will be delighted to listen to you.

We have many splendid learning opportunities, including a special Paralympic sports person visiting who will coach the children, two smoothie bikes and much more.

Smoothie Bike Day organised by Govinda catering – This will be on Tuesday 29th November. I have now been informed that Govinda Catering will provide the ingredients for the smoothies.



We look forward to you joining us at our annual science week activities.



Thank You!!!

www.thebodytransformation.com

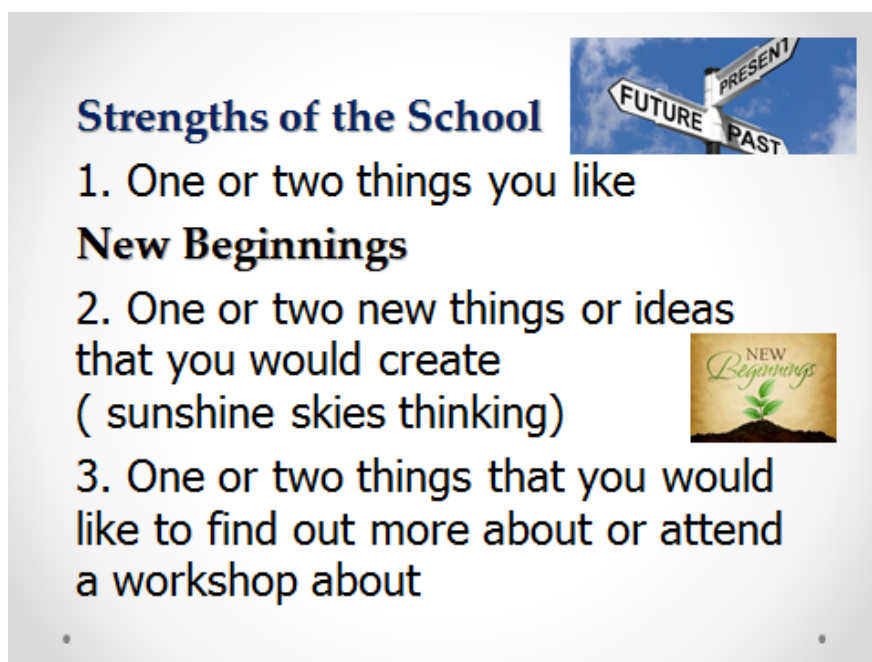


PARENT COFFEE MORNING FORUM You may recall that on 14th October we held our first open forum. It was well attended. I would like to share the views of the parents who attended. We have already addressed some points but other actions will take place in 2017.

The brackets, with a number inside it on the list below, indicates the number of parents who noted the same matter as an area to address.

Please take time to read the views – It is only together that we can build a stronger and successful school for our children.

I shall be sharing the findings with our school Council and ECO representatives and working alongside them to make a better school.



Strengths of the School

1. One or two things you like

New Beginnings

2. One or two new things or ideas that you would create (sunshine skies thinking)
3. One or two things that you would like to find out more about or attend a workshop about

Strengths about the School – What I like

- Children are given projects which they do with a lot of enthusiasm
- Lots of resources to utilise
- Nice food
- Security measures (3)
- Lots of new activities
- Children consulted about things / School Council (2)
- School staff structure – accessibility to speak to them
- Creative learning, role play, projects
- Quality of education
- Brilliant choice of lunches, hot and veggie (4)
- Holistic, practical PRE, Spiritual teaching
- Open minded discussions with parents at gatherings
- Exposure to learning about different cultures (3)
- Smooth transition arrangements in nursery – I am clearly impressed
- Academia in the school
- Parents collecting children at the school gate at the end of after school clubs (2)
- Every child is given equal opportunity in the classroom
- Our values and our school environment
- Approachable, attentive teachers and staff (6)
- Discipline in place with our children's happiness in mind
- Learning about spirituality from a young age (4)
- School timings of the day

- Prayers and visit to the Temple on a Friday (4)
- Our values, culture, faith and traditions recognised and fits in line within at home. (5)
- Partnership with parents
- Newsletter to make parents aware
- Improved communication
- After school clubs
- Children are happy (3)
- How pupils eat in Prasadam Hall – teaches them to respect food
- Curriculums are shared with parents

New Beginnings – One or two new things or ideas you would like to create

- Allow children to drink water and go to the toilet during lessons – teachers are strict
- Volunteers to come into school to help with reading
- There are some kids who are continuously hitting children in class. I would like this to stop.
- Give more practical work to the children, then they may learn quicker
- Extend outdoor activities
- Bhagavad Gita Sloka competition – to create a spiritual understanding of our values
- Identify the special talent within children and making provision to flourish it
- Print off emails that have deadlines and put the paper copy in the book bag
- More consideration to working parents about the timings of meetings and school trips
- Have swimming club
- Congestion of traffic in the morning – paint arrows to indicate the direction of walking so it is a smooth flow
- New ideas about how to help your child in their learning
- Children should not come out of the class once they have been dropped off by their classroom in the morning
- Teach a modern foreign language, musical instrument
- Modernise the school website – use more videos
- Better security when collecting
- Teach writing skills
- Greater links with Bhaktivedanta Manor Gurukula – create pen pals
- Lunch time Clubs
- More parent class consultations together - to know how to help our children and to discuss issues with the teacher
- Extra physical activities
- More play, outdoor forest school, more trips
- Homework club
- Homework Partners
- Art Homework
- Send resources through parent mail to help our children at home
- Basketball club
- Need to know more about my child's learning in class, as he doesn't speak out
- Communication needs to be more slicker – clear instructions and information about school matters
- Charity events and participation. This will promote how to integrate with one another. Understand how to be part of a community
- A quick feedback by class teacher on what/ how the children are doing in their learning. Can be done for 10 children each Wednesday. This can be reiterated at home
- More debates competitions, art competitions, handwriting, singing competitions
- Life skill teaching
- Literacy equivalent to Matheletics
- A better system for collecting children, that takes consideration of grandparents/ elderly picking up children and during winter time
- Have homework on alternative days instead of just Friday
- Lost property if not collected after 3 weeks – should not be stored away
- Inter school competitions of a variety
- Introduce Tutoring service at school

- Recite certain slokas as the children grow
- Visit to the library
- Cricket team introduced
- Develop teaching methods to show children how to deal with anger issues
- More instrumental lessons
- Mindfulness activities after lunchtime – every day for 2 minutes will help children to be ready to absorb information

I want to find out about... I want to improve.... Ideas for Workshops

- Moving on to secondary school – pressure of academic achievements
- How school work and homework is being marked
- School lunch contents of food – tins of food or is it fresh?
- How is food prepared
- How many paneer and cheese dishes there are – are there too many?
- Help with how to teach for 11plus exams
- Queues at lunchtime are too long
- Better communication between parents, Leadership and teachers
- I want to find out about the seating arrangements of children in class
- How to help my child at home in their learning
- Are the children taken to the toilet before they go home. This way, they do not become desperate on the way home.
- How to help children become Street Wise and understand the dangers around them
- Help children with friendship problems
- Workshops ideas– mathematics, writing and encouraging reading, IT, safeguarding, sanskrit,
- Understand the methods of teaching so that I can do the same at home
- Understand how a child's progress is monitored and how do we get the best out of our child
- How to boost a child's particular interest towards certain subjects, when they don't like certain subjects
- What is the school doing about the maths and literacy divide? Most children seem to do better in Maths
- What is the assessment strategy at school? How are children assessed in class?
- How to use Mathletics - how to set up an account
- How to use Purple Mash – how to set up an account
- Greater awareness of working parents – emails sent that are clear and accurate with information
- What is the progress in Sanskrit teaching?

AND FINALLY...

The new admissions policy will be sent to you via parent mail this week. It will be undergoing a consultation period and we welcome your views.

Wishing you a good week ahead.

Mrs Bindu Rai, Principal

DIARY DATES for the autumn term to help you plan ahead. You'll see from the dates there's plenty to look forward to. There will be some additions of workshops and class trips. However, a separate letter will be sent home.

28/11/16	Science Week continues
28/11/16	Paralympic sports person, Serita Solomon to visit the school
29/11/16	Smoothie bike rides arranged by Govinda catering
29/11/16	Year 5 visit their link school
30/11/16	Prospective Reception parents Talk and Tour of school 9.30 – 10.45am
30/11/16	Reading Workshop Year 1 and Year 2 at 2.45pm
30/11/16	School nurse visiting – Height and Weight measurements
06/12/16	Year 6 SATs Parents meeting at 8.30am – 9.15am
07/12/16	Prospective Reception parents Talk and Tour of school 9.30 – 10.45am
13/12/16	Parent Consultation 1 evening
14/12/16	Parent Consultation 2 evening
16/12/16	Reception Nativity production for parents/ carers am
16/12/16	End of term
09/01/17	Pupils Return
09/01/17	No After School Clubs this week
10/01/17	RSBP Bird Watch month commences
16/01/17	After School Clubs commence
19/01/17	KAPSH Has Got Talent Show in the evening – details to follow