

24th May 2019**Newsletter 9**

Dear Parents,

Our value for this half term is **Forgiveness**.

What a fast paced half-term we have had! So much to fit into just 5 weeks. Our Year 2 children have worked their socks off in their 'fun quizzes' (otherwise known as SATS) and they are justifiably proud of themselves. They have shown a real growth mind-set and tackled the quizzes with maximum effort. Our job is to make sure they know that we value effort over achievement and always have our eye on the bigger picture. We now have half a term to make sure they are 'junior ready.'

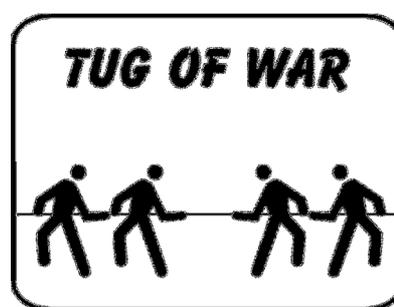
We have been talking through how to improve the start of our school day as it sets the tone for the important learning that happens the moment the children come through the doors. In order to get things moving more quickly and smoothly please can we ask that you say your goodbyes when the children are in their class line so that they can, if possible, come into school with their peers led by their teacher. We recognise that on the odd occasion parents will want to pass on a message to the class teacher and they are usually able to do this during the lining up time, if not we will rota an adult to be at the door to take a message and pass it on. We do, of course, understand that a parent may feel the need to come in with their child when they are upset. However, we usually find that they are easily settled and ready for their day without too much fuss, once in school. We will manage this by swiftly taking them before they get into the school and will contact you if we are at all worried that they are not settling. We would greatly appreciate your help in fully supporting us with this matter.

Last week was 'Mental Health Awareness Week' and the children were shown a short animation to help them understand that well-being involves both body and mind, and that some people (and children) have problems with their mental health and cannot easily manage their thoughts, moods feelings and need to ask for help. We were very keen to discuss this topic openly

and honestly and a few of our staff members shared their personal stories. Please can we encourage you to do the same at home; the more we reduce the stigma of talking about mental health difficulties the more likely we are to be able to help ourselves and others. The link is copied below for you to see.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nCrjevx3-Js>

We are all looking forward to our May Queen crowning and the '**Village Day**' that follows on the Brocus. Details have been sent out to you but we are putting out a plea for your support and involvement!



Can you get a **team of 6** together (men, women or children!) for the competition starting at 2.00 p.m.?

£20 per team

Please contact Becky Choy for registration and payment.

We are also looking for half page adverts to be placed in the programme for £25 only! If you are interested please contact the school office and they will send you the details.

Thank you to all of the families that came to join us at our '**Out & About**' Day. As always the team worked incredibly hard and as a result completed a lot of jobs including the cobbled path, clearing the gardening area, staining the new woodland area mud kitchen and outdoor furniture and last but not least cleaning the pond. Fantastic!



We are thrilled to be able to share with you the recent good news from The Weald Primary School's latest newsletter. Congratulations to everybody at the school on the good work that has been recognised in the HMI letter.

'Other good news this week included the very positive letter following the HMI inspection last week. I hope you have found 5 minutes to read it—if not please do so as I am so very proud of every member of our school community who have worked hard to bring about all the changes over the last two terms. Among the many positive comments it was recognised that leaders in the school have set higher standards and improved the quality of teaching, learning and assessment. Our new assessment system and tracking of pupil progress was acknowledged as well as improvements in attendance and behaviour. Here are a few quotes from the letter:

"You have been resolute in setting higher standards for staff.

"You have wasted no time in implementing a range of measures and strategies aimed at improving standards across the school.

"Pupil's behaviour is improving. This together with better staff supervision has led to a harmonious atmosphere and fewer behaviour incidents during social times."

(Mrs K Redman, Executive Headteacher, The Weald Primary School)

Have a lovely half-term.

Newdigate Leadership Team