



# Weekly Update



Next week's health and fitness lessons – additional/specific clothing may be required for some/all of these

Class	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>
Puffer fish		Swimming			
Seahorse		Swimming			
Hammerhead	Forest School				
Piranha	Trampoline		Forest School		

## Upcoming dates:

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April – Hammerhead Class Forest School

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April – Piranha Class Trampoline

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April – Pufferfish and Seahorse Class swimming lessons

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – Piranha Class Forest School.

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May – Bank Holiday Monday



Dear Parents/Carers,

### First week back

I have been so proud and impressed with our pupils this week! They have adapted to changes linked to the start of the building works with great understanding, insight and resilience. At times, for Puffer Fish it has been quite noisy especially being the class closest to the works, though the second half of the week has been quieter! They have been truly amazing. Staff too have had to manage big changes, as well as support our pupils through these. I am very grateful for their hard work and commitment to making this process as smooth as possible.

Pupils' regulation has been commendable and pupils have generally returned from the break eager to try their best and help each other out. Term on term we are seeing reductions in the need for physical interventions. Staff success with de-escalation is a real strength and knowing each pupil as an individual in order to respond with strategies that work for them. This takes time and building positive relationships each day is a priority. Pupils' sense of respect and co-operation are going from strength to strength, a shout out to Josie for her kindness in offering to help me carry my bags upstairs yesterday!

### Building works

I hope you found the short power-point helpful in seeing progress in the works and how we are adapting routines in school. We are now onto preparation of the foundations which is very exciting!

## **New school website**

We are really looking forward to launching our new school website which we hope will go live next week – details to follow. Thank you to parents/carers for contributing to this with some very touching testimonials. If you would like to share a testimonial with us for inclusion in our website, please email this to Sam in the office.

## **Attendance**

Attendance has been excellent in our first week back. Thank you to all parents/carers for your support with this. We realise that returning to school and early morning routines after a two week break can be tricky but we have seen a significant improvement in attendance for pupils this week. We know that you will understand the importance of attendance if staff are to support your child effectively with learning and for them to benefit from essential social/emotional aspects of school.

We recognise and celebrate attendance on a termly basis through our end of term assemblies with certificates and gift vouchers for “amazing attendance” (95%+) and also for “improving attendance.” We understand that absence can creep up without realising how much time has been missed. For this reason we will be sharing termly attendance reports to raise awareness. We will also be writing to parents/carers when attendance drops below 90%. This is a threshold known as “persistent absence.” We always seek to work with families to support attendance and we have some positive examples of success. As with everything, this works best when home and school are working together openly to support your child.

## **Physical activities and interventions**

Next week sees the return of swimming on Tuesdays for lower school and the start of Forest Schools for Hammerhead class on Mondays and for Piranha class on Wednesdays. Lower school classes thoroughly enjoyed their Forest School sessions in the autumn term and we hope upper school classes will also thrive in their outdoors setting and be keen to learn new skills. Our fabulous Forest School Leader, Matt, will be leading sessions again. We are excited that Terry, one of our Directors will be joining Hammerhead class on their visits in their new site at Shermanbury near Henfield.

Horse riding, Personal training and boxing will also resume next week. There is a change of day for Personal training to Tuesdays this term.

Play Therapy and dyslexia support resumed this week and next week SALT and musical therapy will also resume.

Best Wishes

Sam Norton

Headteacher

# School Values Awards

**Puffer fish – OD – Curiosity – for asking great questions during the ‘Monsters’ presentation.**

**Pufferfish Class – Resilience – for understanding and dealing well with the drilling noises!**

**Seahorse – BBP – Resilience – for always trying her best and working hard all week.**

**PC – Co-operation – for such a fantastic first week back! Well done Poppy! Keep it up!**

**Hammerhead – MJC – Resilience – for showing exceptional strategies to manage big feelings and having full RRR’s all week.**

**Piranha – IW – Resilience – for using strategies to overcome anxiety and engage in learning.**