Dear Families of the Wonderful Ones,

As the children crossed the Rainbow Bridge with grace and confidence, I knew I was lucky to be become the teacher of these children. We still make time for learning through play in Class 1 and it was amazing to see the children re-create of the Fly Up ceremony.

In our first Main Lesson, of Form Drawing, we have taken time to find, explore, move and draw straight and curved lines in many forms. The straight and the curved line is the foundation of form in the physical world and we are developing the basis of the shapes of the letters and the numbers.

Our next main lesson will teach the Letters and be based on fairy tales. The children will be told stories and their imaginations will create inner images. As we draw objects from the stories, these will be linked to letters of our alphabet; a tree in Cinderella will be linked to the letter ‘T’. Learning is drawn out of the student rather than being imposed on him or her. This way of teaching also links to the way which humans first developed literacy; from stories, to pictures and then to more abstract symbols. The children will learn to recognise and consolidate the correspondence between each letter and a sound, and learn correct letter formation through artistic and kinaesthetic experiences. This is a very important main lesson, so unless your child is unwell please send them to school.

Treasure Time

Each child has a day when they are encouraged to share with the class as we eat snack. The best items for Treasure Time are something the child has made, something they found, a photo reminding them of a happy memory or activity, or their favourite book. Please check your child’s day on the sign in our class window. Having an object helps build their confidence to stand and talk in front of their peers.

Birthday Celebrations

Please book a time with Jo prior to the day if you hope to have a school celebration for your child. Birthday celebrations will be in the last 30 minutes of school. Parents may provide a treat to share such as individual serves of fruit eg pieces of watermelon or ‘Fruit kebabs’. Alternatively parents can bring wholesome gluten-free, lactose-free, low sugar/honey individual treats eg small blueberry muffins, or banana bread cut into 20 serves (un-iced). Fruit is very much still a special afternoon treat. Parents might like to share a funny story from when the birthday child was a baby, toddler and as a school child.

Nuts
Please remember we are a nut-safe school and there are children with severe allergies. Nuts and nut products should not be included in lunch boxes. By instead enjoying the nutrients in nuts at home you are helping all children to be safe at school.

Timetable

The timetable seems to have settled with a few small changes
Monday: Chalk or Wax
Tuesday: Indonesian with Jaki, Craft with Leanne (and Jo), Nature Walk
Wednesday: Painting (starts soon) Class games
Thursday: PE with Tim, Craft with Leanne (and Jo), Library with Michelle
Friday: Eurythmy, Singing (Recorder starts term 2)

Parent Helpers
Parents who would like to help are most welcome to join us on our nature walk at 2.40 on Tuesdays. Craft or Painting helpers are welcome and helpful 11.30 Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. Let Jo know if you are planning to come to any of these sessions or if you have any other area you would like to be involved in or expertise that you would like to share.

Curriculum

There will be a curriculum Information evening later in the term or early term 2 for parents to learn more about the Steiner Philosophy of Education particularly relating to class 1. More details coming!

Thank-you for helping the class to have such a smooth start to the year,

Jo and Polly