



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

Aim High

Never Give Up

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Lead By Example

Tuesday 26th January 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to give more information on the new 'talk token' system that is being trialled in the Year 3 class. After receiving staff training before the start of the new term, we were introduced to some new ideas and concepts to support independent learning which we could trial in our classrooms. One of the ideas I thought would be most useful to introduce to the class is the use of 'talk tokens'. The tokens are used during learning time to try and encourage children to use learning time to focus on their learning.

Talk tokens are used during learning time when a child has a question to ask the teacher or another adult in the classroom. The tokens are there to encourage children to use each other as 'experts' before needing to ask an adult. We are, of course, always available to answer questions to help children with their learning, but are hoping that children rely on each other in the first instance in order to have ownership of their own learning.

The tokens are also being used to encourage children to use times of the day when formal learning is not taking place to take drinks and use the toilet. There are several opportunities during the day when children are able to do this:

- Arrival at school
- Story time
- Break time
- Lunch time
- Changing for PE (on PE days)
- Preparing for Assembly
- Getting ready for home

At no point during the day are children denied the use of the toilet or a drink and, as previously mentioned, adults are always available to discuss matters of importance and urgency. If children are suffering with illness they are allowed to keep their water bottles on their tables for use throughout the day when it is needed.

After our first week we have already seen an improvement in the children's choices of when talking to an adult is needed. This is having an extremely positive effect on the learning across the class and it has been met with positivity in the class by every child.

I hope this information has helped to allay any worries or questions you may have had about this. If you have any other questions regarding this please don't hesitate to come and discuss this with me further. I am available at the start and end of every school day on the door.

Thank you for your time and continual support,

Yours sincerely

Mr K Burnham and the Year 3 Team

Mrs D Reynolds

