



## Happy New Year—Happy New You!

Welcome back everyone! I do hope you all had a peaceful Christmas. We have all been very pleased to see the smiling faces of the children this week even though it must be hard to be torn (albeit not for too long!) from the comfort of home and the toys and gifts they may have received over the Christmas holiday. We are aware that a small number of children may be reluctant to attend first thing in the morning but we will do all we can to help the children back into the Spring Term. Hopefully you've all seen the latest Attendance information sent out earlier this week.—I wouldn't want anyone to receive any unwelcome shocks!

Spring Term is a busy term for many reasons, the children are fully settled in their classes and there are expectations to learn and improve across a range of subjects and themes. I spoke to all the children on Tuesday about fresh starts and to think about the impact on others when we do the *opposite* of our Bee Rules. The children often say that they feel as though they are part of one big family here and that is certainly true. Please don't hesitate to come in to see us if you have any worries or concerns and remember that in all cases involving 'fall-outs' - both sides of the story need to be heard before any conclusions are drawn.

### Star of the Week

We do apologise that we can't give any more notice than we already do but if you are unable to make it we do 'make a very big fuss' of the children during the day. I think the children do appreciate that you can't always be available.

### Lake Birkdale

I can only apologise for enormous 'puddles' on the Main Yard. This is sometimes a challenge to navigate particularly at collection. This occurs not because of blocked drains but because the two grates are soakaways and as such have recently been overwhelmed with the extreme weather. A small pump has been very effective this week and seems to be the way to go.

### Parking

Firstly, this isn't a parking issue but a speed issue. If you need to travel for any reason on Matlock or Bury Road, please *GO SLOW*—Everyone will surely know you are doing this because there are prams and tots and 450 children around!

Secondly, on parking...I am fully aware of the rules on what is and isn't permitted on our roads but again, because we are a primary school surrounded by people who live opposite the school...please be respectful at all times.

### Roof Work

This much needed work will begin in February. I have been assured that this extensive work will cause minimal disruption for us but will be very visible as you look around the school from the outside—particularly in terms of scaffolding walkways at the rear of the school. At this point, I would like to thank the Governors and Sefton Council for their help and support in getting this work underway.

That's it for now, let's hope the weather stays on our side. Perhaps I could mention going over your child's name in pen in jumpers and coats—this would help us here in school if there's a dispute...thank you.