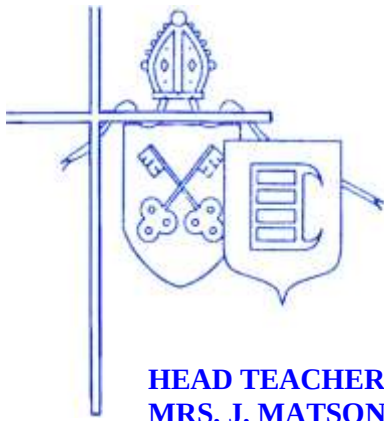




HEAD TEACHER:
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Thursday 10th October 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Important - Facebook and Social Media

Social media can be a fantastic resource when used correctly.

However, it saddens me to share with you that I have had to seek legal advice on the inappropriate use of social media by some parents and members of our school family. Posting concerns about school matters or complaining on social media or platforms like Facebook is really not helpful or appropriate in any situation. Where comments are made that are inaccurate, defamatory, impact negatively or cause upset to an individual or group I have been advised that legal action can be taken by the school.

As you know we have an open door policy here at school and we encourage and welcome any parents with concerns or worries to first come and discuss these with us directly. We also have a formal complaints policy which can be followed and is available on our website. However it appears that, despite school informing members of our school community of the correct approach when concerns or worries arise, the first point of contact in some instances has become social media.

I urge all members of our school community to work positively together, to value each other and our inclusive approach and to be respectful, kind and thoughtful towards each other.

Attached to our September newsletter I shared our school vision, our school behaviour policy and our three school rules.

Our School Vision:

For Barnwood to be a school where we 'Love our neighbour' and work together to be the best that we can be for the good of all.

Working with all members of our school community we want to provide our children with the best possible learning experiences so that they grow into ambitious and responsible citizens.

Our Christian vision and its linked values are at the heart of our school and rooted in the teachings of Jesus, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' (Matthew 22, verse 39)

Our School Rules:

Be respectful, kind and thoughtful

Be the best I can be

Be safe



School Behaviour Policy (an extract):

The school has high expectations regarding behaviour.

This Behaviour Policy takes a very positive approach, with the emphasis being on recognition, praise and reward. It aims to be clear and concise, yet flexible to take into consideration the needs of different age groups and any pupils with specific SEND needs. We aim to spend the vast majority of our time praising and rewarding good behaviour, but it is also important to set out our policy on challenging behaviour so that everyone has a clear understanding of the school's procedures.

As a Church of England School we identify Christian values that underpin the whole of our community. These values inform our school's vision, aims and ethos, the design of our curriculum, all policies, planning and the school's management and governance. The values that relate particularly to this policy are Thankfulness, Compassion, Courage, Justice, Service, Truthfulness, Generosity, Trust, Perseverance, Forgiveness, Friendship and Respect.

The creation of a happy, hard-working school atmosphere, where motivated, caring, courteous people engage with their learning, is not accidental. It requires a lot of effort from staff, children and parents alike. It is not only during lesson time that lessons are learnt, nor is the classroom the only place where strong moral and Christian values are important. Wherever we are in the school or its surrounds, at whatever part of the day, or during whichever activity, we expect the highest standards of behaviour, consideration and courtesy from all our citizens, adults and children.

Barnwood C of E Primary strives to ensure that the culture and ethos are such that whatever the age, heritage and origins, abilities and needs of members of the school community, everyone is equally valued and treats one another with respect.

Together our vision, Christian values, school rules and behaviour policy provide a positive and important message for all of us as members of our school community about how we should behave towards each other.

If you have any worries or concerns about school please speak to a member of school staff as soon as possible.

Many thanks for your support and understanding,

Julia Matson
Headteacher