



Thameside Primary School

Headteacher Mrs. J. Bray

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4th October 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

Changes to the behaviour system

The vast majority of children at Thameside primary behave well, however, there are occasions when children struggle to make the right choices. We reviewed our behaviour system in July and looked at ways in which we could ensure that everyone across the school, both staff and pupils, could be really clear about what our expectations are and what rewards and consequences could be expected. We decided that we only needed small tweaks but that needed to ensure consistency. Consistency is the key.

In order to ensure that everyone is able to be consistent, we simplified the school rules down to three words:

- Ready
- Respectful
- Safe

These three expectations are simple, clear, coherent and can be applied to all situations. They are easy for everyone to remember and make it easy for adults and children to recognise what constitutes good behaviour and what is needed when behaviour needs improvement.

Linked to this, we revised our sanctions and rewards system. Sanctions remain very much the same except when a child is sent on time-out to another teacher or to the Bridge. Now they must fill out a reflection sheet. When the time-out is over, they share the sheet with their teacher who has a restorative conversation with the child and then the sheet is sent to Miss Davies. The parent has an email informing them that their child has had a time-out session and asking them to have a conversation about how they might make better choices in the future.

The rewards system has had a bigger adjustment. In the past, pupils have been able to earn golden time, however, this was not always applied consistently across the school and pupils were not receiving the same experiences. We had also decided that, due to the constraints of the new Cornerstones curriculum, we no longer had time available in the curriculum to facilitate golden time.

Instead, we now ask that teachers identify pupils who go 'above and beyond' in their efforts whether as learners or members of the school community. These children receive a praise card and an email of praise sent home. They then become eligible to be chosen for 'Hot Chocolate Friday'. This is a session on a Friday afternoon when they spend time with a senior member of staff having hot chocolate and playing games.



Thameside Primary School is a proud partner in the Osborne Co-operative Academy Trust

Telephone 01375 648966 | **Email** info@osborne.coop | **Website** osborne.coop

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We understand that some pupils feel the loss of golden time, so we have asked their teachers to ensure that the lessons that take place on Friday afternoons are some of the more creative sessions of the week. This ensures that pupils receive the same experiences, that there is consistency across the school and that Friday afternoons are still fun but have greater learning experiences.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Bray
Headteacher



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