



Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September

Dear All,

Firstly, let me say a big welcome back to everyone and an especially warm welcome to those joining us for the first time – children, families and staff. It has been so wonderful to be back in school with some sense of routine again and to see everyone so excited about their learning.

The relaxation of the Covid regulations has meant that all children have been able to play together and has given teachers more freedom in the activities which they can plan. Hopefully this will lead to some exciting projects this year. We plan to invite parents into school soon to catch-up on everything we have been doing.

We have been busy over the summer updating our behaviour and rewards policy and developing our Hi-five system. Hopefully your children have mentioned this during the week but, if not, look below for further details.

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs L Watts – Executive Headteacher

### This week in class...

**Pre-school:** We have been busy this week welcoming all our new and returning families and have been taking part in lots of 'getting to know you' activities. The children have also been enjoying making full use of the space created by our smart new fence.

**Acorn:** Acorn class have spent the week settling into new routines and getting to know each other as well as the classroom again. We have started to learn about the Great Fire and some children have made fire pictures using paint. They have made timelines of events in history and have started learning about how different life was in Tudor times.

**Oak:** Oak Class have had a fantastic start to the autumn term and have certainly helped to make Miss Dinn and Mrs Harty feel welcome at Northtrepps! We have been getting to know each other by catching up on some summer news headlines and exploring the theme of 'back to school' through poetry. We have begun to explore our key topic for the term, which is Diversity. We have discussed key ideas around differences, community, labelling and developed our understanding of the different ways that we are intelligent. Oak Class are also developing skills in collaborative learning and have been challenged to overcome obstacles through using a 'growth mindset.' Well Done to Oak Class on a great start back to school!

**Welcome** This week we give a really warm welcome to Sonya and Amy who have joined our team in Forest School; to Miss Dinn and Mrs Harty who are our new team in Oak class and to Erin Finnegan who has joined us as an apprentice in Preschool and Acorn class.

### **Dates for your diary**

**Samba drumming for Oak Class** – Mondays from the 13<sup>th</sup>

**Year 5/6 Forest School** – Fridays 24<sup>th</sup> September, 8<sup>th</sup> October, 22<sup>nd</sup> October

**Year 3/4 Forest School** – Fridays 1<sup>st</sup> October, 15<sup>th</sup> October

**Acorn trip to see Dippy Dinosaur** – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October

**Flu Vaccinations** – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November

**Tempest Photos** – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November



## Hi- Five

This term we have introduced our new behaviour policy which sets out our high expectations for behaviour in our schools. As part of this we are using a hi-five to represent the five learning behaviours which we need to see...

Our eyes – look at the speaker

Our ears – listen

Our mouths – make no noise

Our hands – are still

Our bodies – sit/stand up straight and are in their own space

This week the children have been learning the different parts of our hi-five and practising it in lots of different situations. We have already seen great improvements in the way the children move around the school and the listening in class – long may it continue!

**Hi-five awards** In our new policy, we have moved away from house points to make sure our rewards are as meaningful as possible. Instead the children will be able to work for class rewards and our weekly hi-five awards. We want to celebrate the children's achievements in all areas of school life whilst still encouraging them to always try their best and take pride in their work for themselves.

