



# NEWSLETTER 1

Week ending: 8<sup>th</sup> September 2017

small school **BIG dreams**

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**Welcome** to a new academic year – we hope you had a wonderful summer and look forward to all the Autumn Term has in store. As always it is wonderful to see the children return, get to know new families and settle in to an exciting and productive year ahead.

## New to the team

We are pleased to welcome some new members to our staff team this term:

Willow Tree Class – Miss Louise Driver, Miss Faye Williams

Birch Tree – Miss Linda Abeysondera

Cherry Tree – Miss Hannah Williamson

Rowan Tree – Miss Georgia Vary, Mrs Kelly Pedder

Cherry Tree / Rowan Tree / Chestnut Tree – Mrs Keeley Will

We are delighted to have a full staff team, committed and dedicated to high quality teaching and learning. It is important that your child's class teacher is your first port of call if you need to discuss your child's well-being or learning. Please do not hesitate to catch them after school or make an appointment if you have any worries or concerns.



## Celebrating Achievements

We love to celebrate our children's achievements with them and we have made several changes to our awards system this term to ensure they are inspiring and effective.

Values Leaves – will be given to children who demonstrate our 'values'. The newsletters will inform you of the current value – please let us know if your child has made an effort to demonstrate the current value at home so we can give them a leaf for that too. The leaves go up on our Values Tree in the school hall.

Star of the Week certificates - a child from each class will be given one each week. The focus will be told to the children on a Monday (for example this week it was e-safety) to inspire the children to work hard to be the star of the week.

Housepoints will be given in the place of merits. For exceptional work or behaviour, a child will be given 5 housepoints and sent to the Headteacher for a 'Headteacher's award'. Every Friday the house captains will collect the totals of housepoints from each class so we can keep a running total. The house cup will be awarded at the end of each term to the winning house team.

## e-safety

Thank you to those of you who attended the e-safety sessions on Wednesday. In this technological age, e-safety is high on the agenda for all of us; keeping up with our tech-savvy children can be challenging and so these sessions gave excellent tips and advice on how we can support them and help them to protect themselves and be safe on-line. We are planning to get some info out to you all so that you have tips and advice to hand.



## Parent-governor elections

We are very grateful to Debbie Kirby for her role on the governing body over the past four years. Her dedication and commitment have supported us in moving on through times of significant change in the educational landscape and ensured that Tewin Cowper continues to be a wonderful learning community, maintaining the things that are special to us, taking on new initiatives and working effectively in partnership with you all. It is now time for another parent to step in to the role – you should have received a letter outlining the process for nominations and elections. If you would like to know more about the role, please let us know and we can link you up with a governor who can give you a greater insight.

## **DON'T FORGET THAT CHARGES FOR MORNING CLUB HAVE INCREASED: £1.80 FROM 8.00am, £1.20 FROM 8.30am**

**Messages / Invoices have been sent out today for money still owed from last term – please pay promptly so that we can continue to run this excellent provision.**

## Curriculum and Class Info

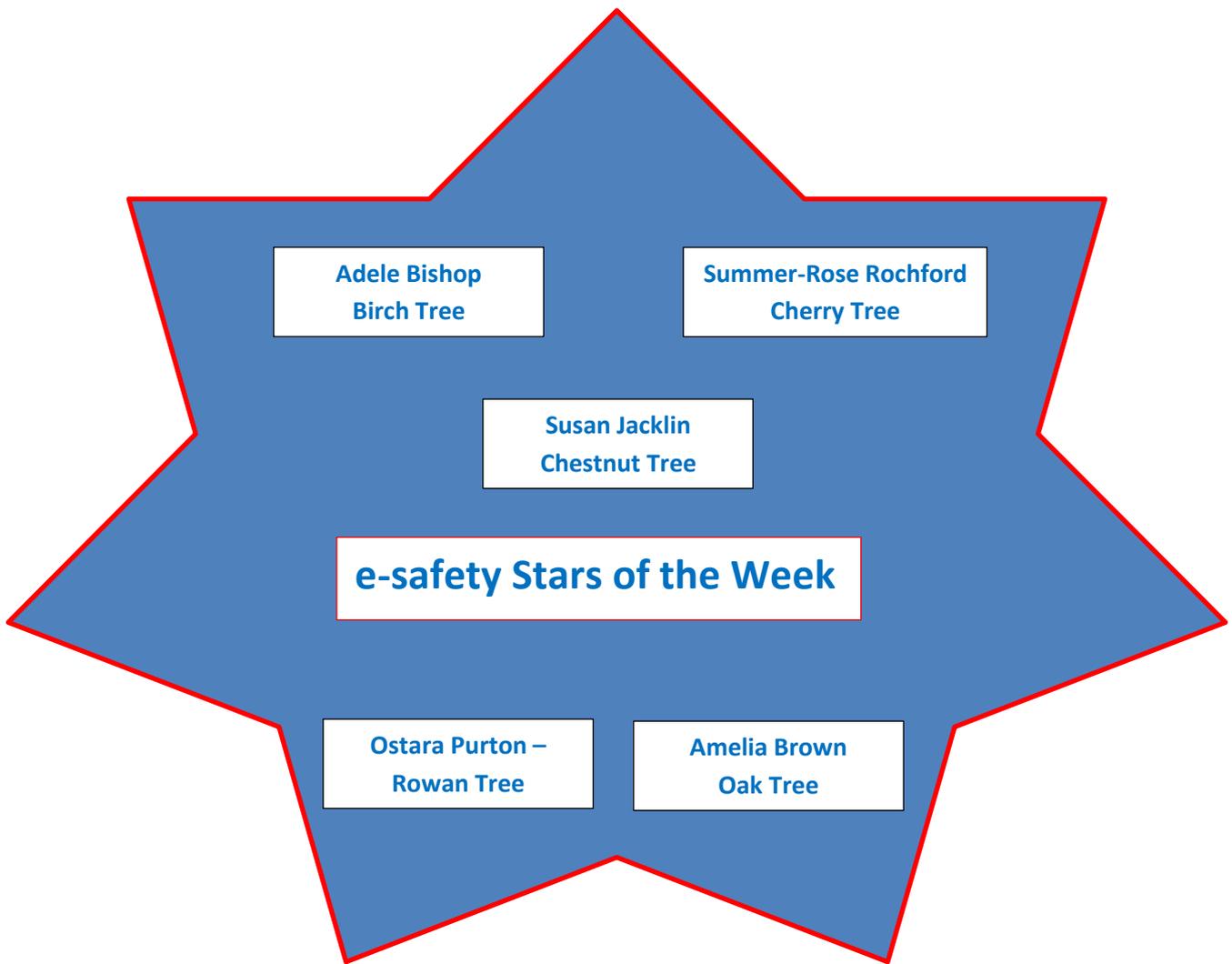
Watch out for letters, emails and texts from classteachers informing you about the curriculum, topics, homework, class routines etc. These will keep you well informed about the learning and activities specific to your child's class. We have really exciting topics planned this year as staff have worked hard over the summer to embed a more 'creative curriculum'.



## Extras to support your child's learning

Please make sure you register for Free School Meals if you are entitled, even if your child is in reception or Key Stage 1 and automatically has them. The school receives additional money for those who are registered which means we can enhance our provision for your child. Anyone registered will be given a free school jumper, a book bag and a Morrison's voucher by the school. It is so easy to register or check whether you are eligible. Simply go on line to:

[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals) - it's quick and easy to do.



## Sports News



We have kicked off to a great start here at Tewin as we have just been informed that we have achieved the SILVER SCHOOL GAMES MARK FOR 2016-2017! This is a fabulous achievement for a small school that we have earned through our commitment to sporting competitions across our local area, thanks to the Hertford and Ware School Sports Partnership (HWSSP) and competitions held in our own school (such as the Skipping and Speed Stacking Competitions).

Naturally, next year we are aiming for GOLD! To achieve this, we will be communicating through the newsletter to let you know what we have been getting up to across the school in P.E. and the children will be publishing their match reports on our P.E. Noticeboard in the hall alongside photographs of them at their competitions.

Your commitment to sporting events is very important to us. We are extremely lucky to be a part of such a supporting sports partnership (HWSSP) who give us fantastic opportunities to try new activities. When our fixtures and competitions get underway, particularly in Key Stage 2, it is important that we work together making sure events run smoothly. Please let us know ASAP if your child is unable to attend an event that they have been invited to. This can cause us, and other schools, real issues when we don't have a full team for an event at such late notice. As I'm sure you can imagine, these events take a lot of organising with so many people to communicate with, but we try our hardest to make sure you have all the information you need as quickly as we can.

**HERE'S TO ANOTHER FAB SPORTING YEAR!**

**P.S. A big 'thankyou' to Miss Tebbutt for being such an amazing Sports and P.E. leader – her determination and commitment have helped us achieve this excellent award.**

Our value for this half term is:

# Generosity

Look out for special activities we will be providing for families to do at home.