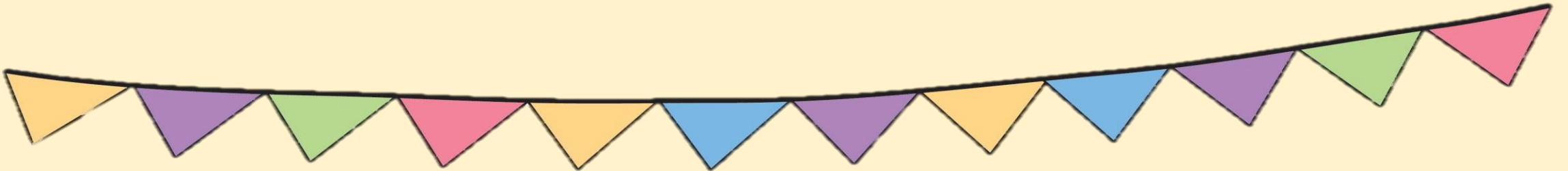


Parents Coffee Morning

Please help yourself to a drink and biscuit!



WELCOME

Glad you're here!



AGENDA

- Transition to Secondary- what we can do as well as feedback from SENDCo's working within Secondary schools.
- Special School provision- when is it appropriate, how to apply.
- Preparing for transition into next year group (e.g. year 3 to year 4).
- Opportunity for you to ask any questions and speak to other parents within our community- **you are welcome to leave at this point or stay and chat.**
- Tea/coffee and biscuits will be provided.- **if you haven't got one already, please do!**

Transition

- Just a fancy word for “moving”.
- Transition can be a worrying time, not only for the children but for you as parents.
- Look out for changes in behaviour, changes in sleeping/eating, withdrawal from things they enjoy, speaking about it frequently.
- Remember- you, as parents, are their safe space and behaviours can feel like they are targeted at you. This is not the case, they just don't know how to communicate how they feel or recognise how they feel.



Transition to Secondary- what can I do in advance?

- **Choice of school-** personal choice and there may be benefits and drawbacks to all options. Things to think about include where their friends are, size of school, best provision.
- **Look round-** go to the open events held by the school. You may choose to take your child or go alone. It will give you a good feel of how the school runs and chance to ask questions you may have.
- **Contact the SENDCo-** this information must be displayed on the school website (may have to contact office first). They can offer practical advice.



What might the Secondary school offer// what can I ask for...

- Remember, all schools have a duty to provide **reasonable adjustments** for children with SEN.
- Meet and greet for particular students to go through the time table and any changes
- Print and laminate the timetable to go in blazer/ trouser pocket (could have map on back to orient themselves).
- Early pass- leave lessons 2/3 minutes before to avoid the rush and noise of corridor (same at lunch times- jump the queue).
- Quiet place for pupil to go if feeling over whelmed with key adult.
- Lunch time clubs for children who need quiet place to eat.

What will OLSE do to support my child?

- Transition prep starts with secondary visit at the end of year 5.
- ELSA available to discuss individual concerns- worry box/ check in board.
- Lesson visits from secondary staff
- PSHE around transition and what to expect.
- Contact for parents- Miss Toplass and Mrs Byrne happy to answer questions or contact schools for advice.
- Pass information onto next school.
- Transition packs



Advice to parents

- Try to remain calm in front of child and model positive language- if you act like it is scary and a worry, children will panic.
- Plan visits/ phased starts (only if appropriate- decision to make with school)
- Ask for photos of areas within school, bring them out regularly and talk about them.
- Talk about exciting parts of transition e.g. trips, new friends.
- Encourage an open conversation, set times to talk about it.
- Practice new journeys well in advance.
- Use social stories or share reading books about transition
- Communicate with staff, keep teachers in the loop
- If behaviours or mood is alarming, it could be worth discussing with GP and SENDCo
- Be kind to yourself and share with others how you feel- you will find most other parents are feeling the same.



Special School Provision

- Special schools are schools which are designed with Special educational needs in mind. They often have an alternative curriculum, sensory spaces, smaller class sizes, specialist equipment, staff trained specifically in SEN needs.
- You can only apply for a SEN Provision School if your child has an EHCP.
- Current waiting list- for every 1 place, 80 children are waiting- if you want them to attend by a certain age, need to start the process a few years in advance.
- Application is done through the EHCP review process.



Transition into new year group

- Use of social story- provided by school
- Count down calendar- provided by school
- All information is passed on.
- Children have transition day.
- Progress review before end of year- raise any concern's you may have.



Questions/ time to chat (or sit quietly and enjoy your cuppa!)

