



**Headteacher:** Mr. I. Johnson (Hons) NPQH

To all Parents/Carers,

14/9/18

Welcome back to another year at Markeaton! I hope you and your families had a fantastic Summer and you made the most of some pretty hot weather! Monday was our first day back and already that feels like a distant memory...

The week started with a whole school assembly about 'what makes us the same' and 'what makes us different'? The children came up with some really interesting ideas and it helped me to introduce the theme of Equality; something that will be revisited in assemblies and lessons throughout the year. Another question I asked around the theme of equality was 'can you think of a time where you feel boys and girls have been treated differently, and was it fair'? Again, this promoted some interesting responses and it certainly highlighted how some of our Junior children (KS2) are quite tuned in to what is happening in the news and with those around them. One Y6 child in particular correctly identified how unfair it is that women and men are paid different amounts for performing the same job. Like I said, this will come up throughout the year in different ways and you will also be able to visit our section on the website and learn more about how, as a school and a community, we can further enhance the values of equality.

In other news, you may have noticed that the Entrance Area looks slightly different; hopefully more welcoming and certainly more comfortable (see picture below)! We have also completed our achievements wall so keep an eye out for new certificates and trophies!



Today was also the inaugural Headteacher's Tea Party (see right)! If you showcase exceptional manners, or an act of kindness or super smart uniform, then you might be invited to have hot chocolate and a biscuit on Friday afternoon with the Headteacher and another member of staff. All invites are given out in our Gold Book Assemblies on Friday morning.

And finally, thank you for adhering to our new start/late times in the morning. In case you have missed it, any child arriving between 9:00am and 9:15am will now be registered as late and any child arriving after 9:15am will now be registered as an unauthorised half day absence. Please be aware of these amended times and please make sure your child is in the playground when the whistle goes – it makes everyone's start to the day much smoother.



**And well done to our new Reception children who completed their first week in school! We hope you enjoyed it!**

Have a great weekend,

Mr I. Johnson