Mrs J Harvey

Head Teacher

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20th April 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are excited to be introducing some pets into school over the coming term, and we are starting this with regular Friday visits from Winston, a small rescue dog owned by myself.

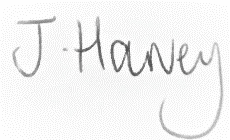
Winston is a 13-year-old male dog who is affectionate, friendly and a loyal companion. He is extremely sweet-natured which means he gets on well with everyone and everything. He is particularly good with children.

Research studies in both Britain and America have shown that having a dog in a school can have many positive benefits, as outlined below:

* A calming effect on pupils, particularly those with additional needs
* Encouraging expression and participation in more withdrawn children
* Fostering a sense of responsibility
* Improved behaviour, attendance and concentration, reduced stress and improved self-esteem
* Motivating pupils to think and to learn, as most children have a high level of natural interest in, enthusiasm for, and enjoyment of animals
* Encouraging respect and thereby improving pupils’ relationships with each other
* Teaching children to nurture and respect life
* Helping children to make progress by developing their confidence and outlook on school life
* Helping children build confidence in reading.

If your child is allergic to dogs or if you would prefer your child not to spend time with Winston, then please inform the school immediately and we will ensure that he does not have any contact with them. If we do not hear anything from you, we will assume that you are happy for your child to touch the dog and spend time with him. We will ensure hygiene is maintained and children will wash their hands after any contact with Winston.

Best regards,



Jennie Harvey  
Head Teacher