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Headteacher: Mr Ryan O'Hearn, BA (Hons)

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21<sup>st</sup> November 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

In my previous newsletters I have shared with you that over the past few months we have been evaluating behaviour across the school, considering the strengths and also the areas for improvement. As a result of this work, we have developed a new policy which we will be launching on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November and will soon be available in full on the school website. I wanted to take this opportunity to explain some of the key elements in the new policy.

**Visual Behaviour Chart** (please see the attached sheet for a copy of this)

This chart will be in every classroom and will be used as a way of helping children to monitor and check their own behaviour choices. Every child will start in the middle of the chart at the beginning of each day and their name will be moved up or down based on the choices they make. If a child is at the top of the chart at the end of the day, 'Amazing Choices', they will receive a small certificate which they will bring home. If a child makes poor behaviour choices and reaches 'Consequences', at the bottom of the chart, then the parent/carers will receive a call from a member of staff to discuss their behaviour and a 'Behaviour Reflection Form' will be sent home with them (we do not expect this to be happening regularly and if a child reaches 'Consequences' it is expected that there will be an improvement in their behaviour soon afterwards).

**Positive reinforcement**

The new policy will be underpinned by the school positively reinforcing appropriate and expected behaviours. This approach is based on extensive research and a wide range of evidence. Although appropriate behaviour has previously been acknowledged in school, we have not had a system to ensure that this is done consistently and as a result the impact has not been as great as it could have been. Further details of this, and the importance of being as consistent as possible, can be found in the full Positive Behaviour Policy (which will be on the website soon).

**Positive Behaviour Code**

With an increased focus on our consistent use of positive reinforcement, it is important that all children and staff are clear about expectations. Because of this, the School Council have been looking at our current Behaviour Code and thinking about what works well and what could be improved. They have decided that there are currently too many statements to remember and people do not know what they are. To change this the children have worked hard to come up with 4 all-encompassing statements which clearly set out our expectations for behaviour in school.

They are as follows:

- We are kind, polite and caring to everyone
- We always work hard and give our best effort
- We look after the school and its environment
- We listen well to others

This Positive Behaviour Code will be displayed in all classes and around the school from next week.

We are very grateful for your ongoing support and hope that after we launch this new policy on Monday (25<sup>th</sup> November) your children will be able to give you lots more details and tell you what they think about it. If you have any further questions, once you have read the full policy (which will be available on the school website from Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November) then please do not hesitate to contact me or speak to the class teacher. The policy will take time to embed fully, however we hope that children will quickly adapt to the changes and view them in a positive light.

Yours sincerely

**Ryan O'Hearn**  
**Headteacher**