

## Mercury Class Newsletter

Welcome to Barlby Bridge CP School to new parents/carers and welcome back to previous parents/carers.

The children in Mercury Class have settled in really well. There may still be a few tears in the morning and perhaps at home before school but once the children are in school and with their friends they are honestly so happy and settled.

At the minute we are focussing on our school rules and routines, getting to know each other, and developing independence with dressing, self-care and choosing activities. We are also doing lots of activities based on working/playing effectively with others.

Starting full time school is a huge thing for a child and we have been thinking lots about how this makes us feel and what we can do to make ourselves and others feel better if we or they are worried, upset or scared. We are really trying to be brave and think of ways we can be brave and what can help us to be brave.

We have been singing lots of songs, number rhymes, making pictures, using playdough, exploring our environment and making large constructions outside to help develop our gross and fine motor skills. Children have also enjoyed their first P.E lesson and were so tired after! Please encourage your children to dress and undress themselves at home so that they are able to be independent at school when getting ready for P.E and getting dressed after.

We are going to start dough disco soon which is fantastic in helping children's hand and wrist strength to prepare them for writing. We will be squeezing, stretching, rolling and pinching playdough in time to music. It's great fun!

We are also going to start teaching phonics soon which is how we teach early reading and writing skills. I will be giving information about a workshop you can attend so that you can see what we do and how we do it. This will help you support your child at home.

It's been great to meet everyone and we look forward to this next academic year!

Mrs Aston, Mrs Morton and Miss Finley