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Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you once again to those of you who completed the behaviour survey. As promised, we are now in a position to finalise our behaviour systems and policy.

Behaviour

Feedback about our new behaviour system was very positive, with most people feeling that the changes that we have made were positive. Our policy is being tweaked (see below) and finalised and it will be available on our website by the end of this month.

Steps on the behaviour track:

There was some concern that as there are more stages to the behaviour track, children are finding it harder to get on to gold and might be a bit demotivated by this. To clarify - being on green is where children should be and they should be praised for this (which is why they now get house points when they finish the day on green). Getting onto gold is a really special achievement and we do not expect children to get there every day. We would ask that you praise your child for wherever they are on the track as long as it is green or better and we will be doing the same in school. That said - we have now made it clear that adults in school can fast track children along the track as and when appropriate; for example if a child does something that is extremely kind, they may get moved straight onto gold. Children do not have to move along every step of the track - this will be explained to the children.

Feeding back to parents and carers:

There was a fairly even split between parents wishing to be informed via email and those preferring to be told face to face at pick up time if and when their child's name was moved to red. We will therefore inform parents and carers who we see at the end of the day face to face and those who do not pick up will get an email. Some parents suggested that getting feedback about how many times their child had been on gold or red would be useful to get at parent consultations and we will be sharing this information at these meetings from now on.

A behaviour system for all:

Some parents and carers felt that it was unfair for children who were not always well behaved to be recognised with ambassador badges or special recognition awards and we feel that it is important to clarify a few points around this:

The behaviour track is the system that should result in those children who are consistently well behaved, being recognised and rewarded for their consistently good or better behaviour. These children are likely to end up on gold more frequently than others. We hope that this will show the children that consistently good behaviour will be praised and rewarded every single day - as it should be.

From now on headteacher awards will be awarded to children who demonstrate consistently good behaviour and achieve well from their starting point (whatever that starting point may



be). Headteacher awards may be awarded to the same child and as headteacher awards are linked to excellent and consistent behaviour, there may be a number of children who do not receive one, however, as you will see below, children have the opportunity to be recognised and rewarded in a number of other ways.

Children will ALL receive a star of the week certificate at some point - the children love this system and really enjoy celebration assemblies. Clearly it will take most of the academic year for every child in the class to be recognised and what order children get these in does not necessarily reflect how well behaved they are. Star of the week certificates are given out for many different things.

The ambassador badge system recognises children for upholding our values. Of course some of these are linked to being well behaved (positivity, respect and inclusivity could be linked to consistently good behaviour in class or on the playground for example). But our values also recognise other qualities such as discovery and endeavour - it is possible for a child who struggles to manage their behaviour on the playground to get a badge for trying very hard on an aspect of their school work. Badges should and will only be awarded for consistently upholding a value and will only be given to children in Years 2-6 from now on. Children will on average receive one badge per year. Any child who has all 5 badges will become an ambassador of the Biggin Hill Way - and their name will be added to a special display. Getting any badge is a great achievement and we hope that children will wear their badges with pride!

Our Year 6 prefects will be chosen from the list of children who have all 5 badges by the end of Year 5 - but there will only be 2 from each class. This is an exceptionally high accolade. House captains are also selected in Year 6, any child can stand and will be elected by their class and teachers.

Special recognition badges can recognise anyone for any achievement. These awards are not directly linked to behaviour. They are awarded for an achievement that is personal to an individual child. This could be for academic excellence or it may be to do with overcoming a barrier or making excellent progress against a personal target.

We have taken on board feedback where there was general consensus and hopefully provided some clarity where it was requested. We recognise that there will always be individual opinions and though we can't please everyone, we would encourage parents and carers to come and discuss any individual concerns or questions about the way in which behaviour is managed in the school, either with class teachers or with a member of SLT. Our final policy will be emailed to all parents and carers and will be made available on our website by the end of this month.

Yours sincerely,



Hannah Freeman
Headteacher

