

Saturday 1st April 2023

New therapy opportunity for children

Dear parents,

As you may know we have a **Pets As Therapy** dog who comes into school each week to support the children. It is wonderful to see the positive effect this has on the children who take part and the impact this has on their self-confidence in the classroom. I am excited to announce that we are expanding this initiative and have now enrolled in the **Tigers As Therapy** scheme.

We will be welcoming adult tigers into the school who will work alongside the children on a 1 to 1 basis in our small group rooms, and we hope the children will benefit from this genuine connection with the natural world. These tigers have been rehomed from a rescue centre, and so can be quite volatile; this therapy will also give the animals a much-needed opportunity to improve their trauma and stress levels, which have been understandably heightened after years of captivity.

I want to reassure you that this has been fully risk assessed, and that the tigers will not be in any danger during these sessions and during their time at school. The school perimeter fences have been checked and any out of control or traumatised animals will be safely contained within school grounds.

We will be contacting parents after the Easter break to ask them to register their interest in the scheme. Any child who takes part will only be allowed to do so if their parents have completed a specially extended permission slip, as well as giving us other supplementary information (such as any allergies to cats, details of their GP and blood type). I do hope you are as excited by this opportunity as we are.



Yours sincerely,

John Tutt Headteacher



