



School Newsletter

Monday 4 September 2017

Dear Parents

Welcome Back

We are delighted to see all the faces return for another year at the school. We sincerely hope that you had a great summer break and fully energized for the months ahead. I include a few points below regarding pastoral care /child protection arrangements for the year. This is most important as they are put in place for the safety and wellbeing of all our pupils. If you have any queries at all please feel free to contact me at any time. If I am not available, I will certainly get back to you as soon as I can. In the meantime, I look forward to speaking with you in the coming days.

Pastoral Care/ Child Protection

An increasing number of parents are making their way to classrooms during the school day without reporting into the office. For child protection purposes we can-not allow persons other than staff to walk in the corridors and visit classrooms. All parents must always report to the office and wait there if they need to see their child or if they have something which needs to be given to their child. We will send for them to come to the office. We must enforce this strictly as we will not compromise on the safety and child protection procedures that are in place to protect the children. Parents and visitors are asked to enter the school only through the front entrance and must report directly to the front office. If you need to see a teacher, please phone and if a meeting is required this will be arranged.

Morning Supervision

Supervision in the playground starts at 8.40am every morning. **Under no circumstances should any child be left un-supervised in the playground before this time.**

P1-P3 Playground

We are always happy to see our parents and value very much the contact we have with you. The Principal has asked for those parents dropping off the younger children in the junior playground, if you are waiting please stand at the fence at the back of the playground. With so many adults in the confined space, it is a health and safety concern for children who are playing with their friends in the morning if the playground is congested. Children also need to be allowed to line up independently and we ask parents to allow this to happen.

Cars

Like last year we ask parents not to park their cars on the driveway or bring their cars up to the roundabout outside the main entrance. Many pupils are moving around this area and for safety reasons this will be strictly enforced.

Breakfast Club/Fun Club

Although we are in our first week back we have made arrangements for the breakfast and fun clubs to begin straight away. The costs remain the same for now and the usual arrangements for payment remain the same. We encourage as many pupils as possible to take advantage of the breakfast club as we feel we are offering the best value at £1 per day of any school.

School Meals

The price of a school meal has increased to £2.60 per day.

Free School Meals

If your child/children's name did not appear on the list sent to us by the Education Authority you should have received a letter from Mrs Fox on Friday. As explained in the letter if you do not have an entitlement to Free Meals you **must** pay for any meals consumed by your child or provide a packed lunch. If you need to re-apply we would advise you do this as soon as possible. If you need to discuss this please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Fox in the office.

Contact Numbers

We keep in contact with our parents quite a lot through texts and through our See-Saw app. It is vitally important in case of emergencies that the primary contact details held at the school are accurate. If for any reason your contact details have changed, and primarily your mobile number, please inform the office immediately.

Change of Training Day

Due to the availability of training providers we have had to make one change to the holiday schedule for this academic year. The school will be closed for all pupils on ***Friday 29th September** to facilitate essential staff training for ICT. This day will replace the 8th May which was originally earmarked for training. Tuesday the 8th May will now be a normal school day for all pupils. We are sorry for the change of plans but we are trying to give you as much notification as possible.

School Holidays

The school will be closed on the following dates inclusively:

***Friday 29th September- Staff Training**

Mon 30th Oct- Fri 3rd Nov- Halloween mid-term break; Monday 27th November - reporting to parents;

Friday 22nd December- Friday 5th January- Christmas Holidays;

Monday 12th-Friday 16th February- Midterm;

Friday 30th March-Friday 6th April- Easter Holidays;

Monday 7th May- Bank Holiday; Monday 28th May- Bank Holiday.