



7th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year; I hope you've all had an enjoyable summer break. A special welcome to all our new children and families who have joined us this week and to our new Nursery children who we will welcome next week. We look forward to getting to know you all and welcoming you to our school community.

Classroom Drop-in sessions

We are inviting parents and carers with children in years 1 – 6 to come into school to see their children's new classroom and to meet the teacher next week on **Tuesday 12th September and/or Thursday 14th September between 3.30 – 3.50pm.**

This year these will be informal sessions where your child can show you around their classroom and you can ask the teacher any individual questions you may have at this time (there will not be a formal teacher talk). We will also be able to hand you the class newsletter for this term.

We are offering the sessions on two days in the hope that you will be able to make one of them and for parents who have children in more than one year group. If you cannot make either session, then please be reassured that the key information will be sent home to you in the newsletter on Friday next week.

Separate arrangements will be made for parents and carers with children who have just started in Reception and Nursery. We will let you know about these arrangements shortly and ensure you have an early opportunity to ask any questions you may have at this time.

School Start and Finish times

A reminder that school starts at 8.45am each morning and children should be ready to enter the classroom at that time. The main school gates will open at 8.30am. Our finish time is 3.25pm on a Monday to Thursday and 2.35pm on a Friday. The school gates will open 10 minutes before pick-up.

Toast

Every morning lots of children in each class choose to have a piece of buttered toast. This is offered from Year 1 upwards and is made by a member of staff ready for the children's break time. We do ask for a contribution of **£5.00 per half-term** from parents to cover the cost of making the toast. Please can you make payment on Arbor if your child is having toast. We do need to ensure that all our costs are covered. Thank you.

Dates: Please see below some key dates for this term. We will make sure that the website is continually updated through the year with key dates so please do keep checking the website.

Tuesday 12th & Thursday 14th September

Tuesday 19th & Friday 22nd September

Monday 25th September

Wednesday 18th & Thursday 19th October

Monday 23rd to Friday 27th October

Monday 30th October

Tuesday 7th November

Monday 18th December

Tuesday 19th December

Classroom drop-ins between 3.30pm – 3.50pm

9am Volunteer Safeguarding Training (for all current and potential future parent volunteers)

Parents Association AGM @ 7:30pm

Parent Consultations for all children

Half-term holiday

INSET Day (school closed)

Photographer in school

Pantomime trip (Reception to year 6 TBC)

Christmas dinner & Nursery end of term

Free School Meals

A reminder to families where the financial situation may have changed to please check your eligibility for free school meals. **This is especially important for families now in Year 3 as the government funded free school meals stop in Year 3.** If your child is eligible, they will also qualify for holiday activity programmes and access to food vouchers over holiday periods. Although all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive a free meal each day in school, it is still worth applying as the school will receive extra funding to support your child if you do.

You are eligible if you receive any of the following benefits:

- Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

A member of staff will always be out in the playground each morning if you have any questions or please know that you can always contact us via the school office. We look forward to working together with you throughout the year ahead.

Best wishes

Sharon Barton
Head Teacher