

8th September 2022

Dear Parents,

It has been wonderful to welcome the children in to school this week. They are really enjoying the special activities of Good to be Us this week, prior to the full curriculum starting on Monday. It has been lovely to hear about their time over the summer, when the weather was particularly warm and sunny. The return to school pick-up has also marked the return of the rain!

We look forward to working with you all over the coming academic year to enable your children to move forward in their learning, develop their independence and resilience, and to be happy and healthy.

School news:

This week, and the first two days of next week, have been Meet the Teacher opportunities for all classes from Y1 to Y6. Having not been able to hold these during the pandemic restrictions, it has been a genuine pleasure to welcome those of you who have been/are able to attend.

The school calendar will be issued as soon as possible – we are just confirming some dates. We also will keep the online calendar on the website up to date for your reference. Our additional curriculum provision offer (lunchtime and after school Clubs) will start week commencing 19th September, and paperwork will be issued shortly.

Our termly Curriculum Newsletters will be issued over the coming days, and will be posted onto the VLE and onto the website for you to have the overview of your children's learning topics over this term.

Our Curriculum Enrichment programme will start week commencing 19th September, and further details will be issued in due course. We also have plans in place for a full programme of visitors and visits for each class. In order to help fund this, we really appreciate those parents who are able to make a termly contribution of £10 per child. This can be paid termly on line. Thank you in advance for your support with this, as this provision really enhances the learning experience of the children.

Snacks and Packed Lunches:

Please note that we do have a healthy eating policy agreed by the School Council. The children in KS2 may bring fresh or dried fruit as a breaktime snack on Monday to Thursday, with Friday being more relaxed – no chocolate bars or large pieces of cake please! KS1 children are provided with fruit/vegetables daily at breaktime.

If your child is bringing a packed lunch, please remember that this should contain healthy choices, and must be nut free as we have a number of children and staff with severe allergies. Please check the ingredients lists as some chocolate spreads – a favourite of the children – do contain nuts.

Attendance:

You may be aware of the Government drive to improve school attendance. We appreciate your support in this area, and do understand that last year illness and restrictions severely impacted the attendance of some children. The key message moving forward is that your children are here, here ready to learn and here on time. If your child is absent for any reason, please notify the office by 8:35am on the first day of absence. On your child's return to school please send in a signed note giving the dates and reason for absence. Even in this electronic age, we are required to have a hand signed note for absence. Thank you.

Health:

We will be continuing to encourage good hygiene to help the children to stay well. The current Public Health information and Government Guidance is that the Covid situation no longer requires specific restrictions on schools. If your child is unwell they should remain at home until they are recovered. If they are medically tested for Covid and receive a positive outcome, then they should isolate for three days or longer until the symptoms have passed. (Adults are requested to isolate for five days.)

Updates from the PTA:

The AGM will be held in the school hall at 7:00pm on Monday 26th September. All parents are cordially invited. The evening is an opportunity to reflect on the previous year (during which the events raised a considerable sum of money to support the school) and to look forward to the coming months. The PTA are working towards enabling a covered area of the playground to provide additional shade and an area for quieter outdoor activities which will enhance the experience of the children, as well as responding to staff requests which cannot be met from the School Allocated Budget.

We do hope that you will be able to come along on 26th and share ideas and so refreshments.

We have been able to arrange a family group photo opportunity on Saturday 8th October. Please note the attached flyer for booking.

Please note that the PTA are no longer able to accept cheque payments moving forward. All payments therefore will need to be in cash, by card at events or by bank transfer.

Message from the LA:

Please see the message below from the LA regarding transport.

The Council have also posted on their website support available to families in these very challenging economic times. Their Helping Hands information may be of help to you.

Upcoming dates:

As mentioned above, the dates of most events are still being finalised, but please note:

Meet the Teacher meetings at 2:25pm in the classroom:

Y4 Friday 9th September

Y3 Monday 12th September

Y6 Tuesday 13th September

Friday 30th September – Y4 Parents are invited to a special assembly provisionally at 2:40pm

Friday 21st October – Y3 Parents are invited to a special assembly provisionally at 2:40pm

Tuesday 1st November and Thursday 3rd November - this term's Parent Consultation Meetings, which will be on-line meetings as usual.

I do hope that you will be able to continue to support your child in their learning and support the school to offer the best opportunities to the children that we can. Please do not hesitate to contact us at school if you have any queries, or if you need our support. We are living in very challenging times at the present, but we are together as a community. Many of our staff live in the village and enjoy supporting your children in school; however, it is not appropriate for them to be approached regarding school whilst not at work as they are entitled to a private life. Thank you for your understanding with this.

Mrs K. Tamlyn

Head Teacher