



Autumn Term 2017

Dear Parents / Carers,

I extend a warm welcome back to school to you all and trust you had a restful, fun summer holiday. As this is the first newsletter of the new school year, I'll detail all staffing information, dates for your diary and information to support our children's return to school.

Staff Information

Reception:	Mr. Horton, Miss O'Donovan, Mrs Clare, Miss Malia, Miss Brannon, Miss Perry
Year 1:	Miss Higgott, Mr. Dean, Mrs. Bradney, Miss Blunt, Mrs. Sadler
Year 2:	Miss Tomlinson, Miss Hague, Mrs. Welsh, Mrs. Guy
Year 3:	Miss Golding, Miss Thwaites, Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. Cooke
Year 4:	Mr. Clarkson, Miss Gough, Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. Baker
Year 5:	Mr. Lane, Mrs. Worrallo, Mrs. Mincher, Mrs. Johnson
Year 6:	Miss Billingsley, Miss Johnston, Mrs. Chapman, Mrs. Holyhead, Mr. Godwin

We welcome all new staff to our school. As a reminder, all enquiries or questions can be directed to the following middle leaders:

Reception & Year 1: Mr. Horton

Year 2 and Year 3: Mrs. Worrallo

Year 4, 5 and 6: Mr. Clarkson

If you have further questions or concerns, please ask to speak to Mrs. Worrallo, our Assistant Headteacher, Miss Challenor, Deputy Headteacher or myself.

As we operate an open door policy and wish to work in partnership with you, please do not hesitate to chat to staff either before the start of the school day or more conveniently, at the end of the school day when children are dismissed and staff are either at their classroom doors or school gates.

In addition, Miss Parker continues her Home / School Liaison role and is available to support families and children with any educational, social or emotional needs. If you wish to speak to her, please ask at the main office. Enquiries with regards attendance, uniform or day-to-day events can be directed to Miss Mills, our Business Manager, or Mrs. Bull our Attendance Officer.

School Uniform

As a school we are proud of our school uniform and we very much appreciate your adherence to our uniform policy. Summer uniform can be worn until autumn half term but immediately following, children must wear our winter uniform – details of uniform are on our school's website.

However, a couple of reminders:

- Black shoes must be worn; trainers are not acceptable.
- In the transition to winter uniform, girls must wear trousers or a skirt; leggings are not permissible.
- We do not allow the wearing of jewellery other than one pair of stud earrings.
- Nail varnish or make up are also not allowed.

Dates for the Diary

Monday 11th September: Meet the Teacher

*Please come along at 3:30pm to your child's classroom to meet your child's class teacher and to learn of the year group's organisation and expectations.

Monday 11 th September:	Year 6 PGL Residential meeting. (immediately following Meet the Teacher)
Thursday 28 th September:	Year 4 Assembly / MacMillan Coffee / Cake sale
Thursday 5 th October:	Year 2 Harvest Assembly
Wednesday 18 th /	Parent Consultations
Thursday 19 th October	
Thursday 19 th October:	Year 3 Assembly / Diwali Celebrations
Monday 23 rd -Friday 27 th October	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Thursday 9 th November:	Year 6 Remembrance Assembly at St. Alban's Church
Monday 13 th November:	INSET Day (School Closed)
Friday 17 th November:	Year 5 Children in Need Assembly
Friday 1 st December:	Christmas Fair
Thursday 7 th December:	Year 1 Christmas Assembly
Thursday 14 th December:	Reception Christmas Assembly
Thursday 19 th December:	Reception – Year 4 Christmas Party / Year 5 – 6 Disco
Wednesday 20 th December:	Christmas Carol Concert at St. Alban's Church Years 4-6

Milk Money

Milk can be ordered at a cost of £10.50 per term. The last date for us to receive payment is Friday, 15th September. If you wish your child to receive milk, please send money in a named envelope to your child's class teacher.

School Dinners

School meals cost £2.10 per day. May I remind you that dinner money must be paid on a Monday, in advance of that week. Payment in advance is stipulated by 'Direct Services' who are our catering service. As this is their directive, we may not be able to allow your child to continue staying dinner if advance payment is not being made on a regular basis.

It is possible that some families who are eligible for free school meals have currently not applied. I would urge you to check the following criteria and apply, even if your child does not wish to take hot dinners every day. It is of great benefit to the school's finances to record how many children are eligible. Application forms and further information are available from the school office.

If your child receives free meals under the Universal Free School Meals scheme, it is still advantageous to claim Free School Meals as your child will receive free school milk and subsidised school visits.

Eligibility to claim **Free School Meals** criteria:

Income Support, Income based Job Seekers Allowance, Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit, Income related Employment and Support Allowance, Child Tax Credit **and** annual income (as assessed by the Inland Revenue) is **less than £16,190** (April 2015-2016).

Eligibility to claim **Flexible Charging Scheme** (meals cost only £1 per day):

This scheme was previously fully funded and was known as the 'Pilot' scheme. Oak Meadow governors have agreed to part subsidise meals for parents who were eligible under this previous 'Pilot' scheme so that parents are asked to pay £1.00 per meal, rather than £2.10. You may apply for the scheme if you are in receipt of Working Tax Credits and your total income does not exceed £16,190 per year.

If you are eligible to one of the above benefits, your child is entitled to receive free school / flexible charge meals. More information available from the school office.

Healthy School Status

As a 'healthy school' we ask for your support in ensuring your child's morning snack and lunchbox contains healthy options. A break time snack can consist of a piece of fruit or a fruit bar children are not allowed to eat crisps or chocolate bars at this time. Research links healthy eating with healthy minds and optimal thinking and learning at school. We also encourage our children to keep hydrated as much as possible. Water fountains are placed strategically around the school but children can also have their own water bottle with them in class. Again, drinking regularly has positive benefits for children's health, well-being, concentration, physical performance and behaviour.

P.E Kits

When attending our “Meet the Teacher” session, Monday 11th September, your child’s weekly timetable will be shared. Children will have two hours of P.E. a week and so it is a requirement that P.E. kits remain in school at all times during the term. As the weather becomes cooler, children will be encouraged to wear a tracksuit or sweat top and jogging bottoms for added warmth. Pumps or trainers must be worn for these lessons.

Swimming lessons take place each year for Years 4 and 6 – at Wolverhampton Swimming and Fitness Centre near to Bentley Bridge. Each year group will spend half the year swimming in order to develop their swimming skills. Year 6 will swim until February half term, whereupon Year 4 will start until the end of the year. A further letter will follow sharing details of these lessons.

GENERAL REMINDERS

- In order to keep all our children and families safe, it is not permissible to ride bikes on our premises or to ride scooters. We kindly ask you to dismount at the school gate and wheel your bike / scooter along the path.
- It is a road traffic offence to park on the yellow zig-zag lines outside of the school gates.
- In line with Wolverhampton City Council’s ‘Smoke Free Policy’, smoking is not allowed anywhere on our school premises.
- No dogs, except for guide dogs, are allowed on our site at any time.

50th Birthday Balloon Race

Recalling our school’s 50th birthday celebrations and our balloon race, I detail following all returned notifications and announce the winner to be: Isla Henshaw – 91.35 miles.

Grace Sutton 7.7 miles (Walsall)

Logan Mottram 27.01 miles (Tamworth)

Victoria Dube 49.72 miles (Loughborough)

Kaiden Babb 49.72 miles (Nottingham)

Teagan Hassell 50.87 miles (Loughborough)

Kyle Macdonald 51.67 miles (Loughborough)

Tyrell Johnson 82.04 miles (Sproxtton Leicester)

Isla Henshaw 91.35 miles (Grantham Lincs)

Final Note

It was a pleasure welcoming all our children, existing ones and new ones, for the start of our new school year / term. As a staff we look ahead with keenness to building relationships and working partnerships with you further.

Kind regards,

Mr Arnold
Headteacher