



Head of School's letter

February 2017



Dear Parents/Carers

How quickly the spring term is flying past! The nights are getting lighter and hopefully the weather will soon be getting warmer. The pupils are working exceptionally hard and making pleasing progress across all of the year groups. As the term draws to a close there will be holiday homework sent home. The creativeness of our children is astounding so we will look forward to seeing the creations once again! As always, if you have any concerns please speak to your child's teacher in the first instance.

Road Safety

It is important to remember that all children must be closely supervised when walking to and from school- this is the responsibility of you as a parent. We ask parents to park considerately and drive slowly. The school cannot take responsibility for children on the roads, before school or once they have been released into your care at the end of the school day. Please make sure that you use the School Crossing Patrol staff in the local area to help you cross the busy junctions.

Safety on the playground

Recently we have had some occurrences of children trying to leave the school when the gates are open in the morning, after parents have left them unattended on the playground. You **must** stay with your child until 8.45am – staff members are not responsible for supervising your children before the doors open and they enter the building.

Open Evening

Our school is looking wonderful with lots of examples of the children's work displayed all around the building. We will be holding an open evening on 21st March, from 4pm – 6:30pm, so please take this opportunity to come into school to look around and talk to your child's teacher. If you would prefer to talk to your child's teacher in private, please make an appointment to see them at an alternate time.

Personal belongings

Please could children be prevented from bringing into school such items as toys, large key-rings and oversized and fancy hair-bands? They are not part of uniform policy and tend to cause upset when they get lost or damaged. Teacher time is being taken up to find, clean, identify and return these things. Please also double-check names are still visible in all items of clothing as labels are fading due to washing.

PE Kit

PE kit must be in school every day and should be brought in on a Monday and kept in school until Friday. We have recently had increasing numbers of children who are asking the Office to phone home to ask for parents to bring forgotten PE kit into school, which is inconvenient for the Office staff and for parents. Children still do PE outside in the spring term so please send a plain, dark tracksuit into school. Trainers or pumps must also form part of the PE kit. For safety reasons during PE, headscarves should either be removed, or girls should wear a sports headscarf like the one pictured below.



Events

As always we have a lot to look forward to this term. Class assemblies will continue on Thursday afternoons and ASPIRE assemblies will be on Friday mornings.

Mrs Mockbil hosts a weekly coffee morning on a Tuesday for parents so please come along and get involved. There are also a range of parent courses – please speak to Mrs Mockbil for details.

Our Stay and Play sessions for pre-school children have now begun and all are welcome to attend on Thursday mornings at 9am in the Bowen Studio. The charge is just £1 per session.

The children have the opportunity to participate in a range of enrichment activities which greatly enhance their learning. Please can we remind you that although contributions requested for trips and events are voluntary, these activities can only go ahead with your financial support. If there are difficulties funding a trip please speak to your child's teacher.

School Photos

Thank you to all of the parents who have brought their order forms for school photos back. The orders will be collected by the company this week, so please ensure that you have all order forms back to the Office with the correct money or your bank details enclosed by this Wednesday, 15th February.

Attendance

Thank you for joining us in recognising the importance of your child being in school every day; it is wonderful to feel so much support in this crucial area. As a reminder, we ask parents to organise dental and doctor appointments outside of school hours. The majority of parents have willingly done this and we will continue to refuse to authorise non-urgent appointments to ensure the children receive the best possible education. No holidays in term-time will be authorised.

Dinner Money

Please remember that Dinner Money should be paid on Monday for the week ahead and that each meal costs £2.15.

Finally if you have any queries please speak to a member of the team. I wish you a peaceful and relaxing half term.

Mrs R Eaton

Term dates:

Half term holiday: Monday 20th – Friday 24th February

School restarts: Monday 27th February

Inset day – school closed to pupils: Friday 17th March

Easter Holidays: Monday 10th – Friday 21st April

School Summer Term starts: Monday 24th April

Bank Holiday: Monday 1st May

Half term holiday: Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June

Inset day – school closed to pupils: Monday 26th June

Inset day – school closed to pupils: Friday 7th July

Last day of school: Tuesday 25th July