

NEWSLETTER

Welcome Back

Welcome back! All the children have returned eager and excited to join their new classes. They have settled well into the routines of school - smart in their new uniforms.

I hope you all managed to have a good summer - it was nice to have some sunny weather for a change.

I am sure you would like to join me in welcoming our new staff member to the school:- Connor Griffiths in Year 4.

We already have lots planned for the new academic year. Information about the work that the children are covering this half-term will come home shortly.

Information about Meet the Teacher will be coming out soon. Nursery, Reception Years 1 and 3 will be week beginning 16th Sept and year 2, 4, 5 and 6 will be week beginning 23rd Sept. This will be an opportunity to meet your child's class teacher, find out about class routines and how you can help support your child.

Presentation Week is next week beginning 9th September. During this week the children will focussing on presenting their work as neatly as possible. There will be a head teacher's Award sticker for the 'Most Improved' and the 'Best' presentation in each class.

Upcoming events

Information will be sent home early next week about **Handwriting Week**. The children will practice their handwriting daily and there will be prizes for the 'Most Improved' and the 'Best' handwriting for each class.

Clubs letters will be sent home early next week. Please return your selection to the school office ASAP.

Year 5/6 School Journey is only a week away now. A letter has been sent home with final reminders for the trip. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us while we are away.

Music Lesson

All children who have signed up for group music lessons for Guitar these will take place every Tuesday, starting on 10th September 2019. We are still waiting for details to be confirmed for Violin and will update you as soon as possible.

Year 6 - Secondary Transfer

All children in year 6 will need to apply for a secondary school place for September 2020. The online system is now open, the closing date for applications is the 31st October. Parents should apply online at www.hertsdirect.org/admissions

For those of you who do not have internet access you are very welcome to use a computer at school. If you would like any help please talk to the office staff. The Moving-On booklet sent out today will inform you of the dates for open evenings at the secondary schools and how to apply. If you would like another copy please contact the office.

Message to Year 5 Parents

Secondary transfer is now open to all children currently in year 6. As year 5 parents this is an opportunity for you to also go around to their open evenings to have a look at what they have on offer. Further information can be found on our carousel or on individual secondary school websites.

Reminders

Collection of KS2 Pupils

When you arrive to collect your children at the end of the school day, please come through the

pedestrian gate and wait in the playground, not on the path, to avoid congestion outside school. Children leaving school must wait on the pavement. This will make it easier for staff to see clearly who is collecting your child before allowing them to leave calmly and safely.

Collection of KS1 pupils

Can we ask for parents to wait on the path by the classroom doors.

Snacks

Please can we remind you to send in a healthy snack for children to eat at playtime, such as fruit or vegetables. We promote ourselves as a healthy school, therefore, sweets, crisps or chocolate are not allowed during morning break. Please note: *The school is a "nut free zone"*.

Nuts:- We have several children in school who have **severe** allergic reactions to nuts. Please can I remind you that we **do not allow nuts of any sort in packed lunches** including peanut butter/chocolate spread. With your support we will keep all of our children safe.

Uniform:- The children have all returned extremely smartly to school, please make sure that you have labeled all of your children's clothing as we already have items in lost property!

Jewellery:- We have had an increasing variety of jewellery coming into school this new school year. Due to the danger of earrings becoming caught whilst children play we only allow children to wear small plain studs. Children need to be able to take out their own earrings for PE and swimming. If you are considering having your child's ears pierced please make sure this coincides with the 6 week holidays as children are not allowed to take them out for the first few weeks.

Playground Equipment

Please can you help us to keep the children safe before and after school.

Unfortunately the playground equipment is to be only used during the school day and not to be used before or after school when it is not supervised.

Coming to school by scooter or bike is an excellent way to travel. Despite the playground being a great place to ride and scoot around this can cause a hazard for other children particularly younger siblings. Please can you remind your children not to

ride their bikes and scooters on the playground before and after school.

School Meal Charges for the Autumn Term

Cost Per Day for Nursery	£2.40
Cost for Junior Children	
Per Day	£2.60
Per Week	£13.00
First Half of the Autumn Term (38 days)	£98.80
Second Half of the Autumn Term (37 days)	£96.20
Whole of the Autumn Term (75 days)	£195.00
Fun day Friday Whole Term	£41.60

Class Assemblies

Date	9.15am Start	9.45am Start
Friday 27 th September	4 Cherry	2 Maple
Friday 4 th October	5 Chestnut	1 Holly
Friday 11 th October	3 Hazel	Rec - Ash & Rec - Elm
Friday 18 th October	5 Sycamore	2 Birch
Friday 25 th October		Nursery - am
Friday 15 th November	3 Cedar	
Friday 22 nd November	6 Mulberry	
Friday 29 th November	4 Willow	
Friday 6 th December	KS1 & KS2 Base	

Friday 1st November 2.30pm - Nursery - pm

Library and Book Bags

Before borrowing from the library, every child must have read and signed our Home- School Library Contract. As well as this, each child must have a Cowley Hill book bag, which they will use to carry their books to and from school.



The book bags are available for purchase at the small price of £2.00, with the school subsidising the remainder of the cost.

Books **cannot** be borrowed from the library without a book bag.

Please note that the book bag can be purchased online using your School Gateway account.

Parking - Reminder

Whilst the vast majority of parents park considerately at school drop off and pick up times I have received complaints from our neighbours in Winstre Road about parents parking over driveways. Reports of abusive and threatening behaviour will be passed on to the police with registration details. This is clearly behaviour we do not want around our children. I appreciate that there is limited space around the school and request that you park considerately.

May Bank Holiday 2020

Next year's early May bank holiday will be moved back by four days for the whole of the UK to coincide with the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

May Day is traditionally held on a Monday but will be put back to Friday 8th May 2020.

FSM

Are you entitled to any of the following benefits?

- Income support
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit with a taxable income of no more than £16,190 and not in receipt of Working Tax Credit
- Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit)
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after employment finishes or after you start to work less than 16 hours per week

If so you may qualify for Free School Meals. This means that the school will receive additional funding for your child. Last year we received £1,320 for each pupil in additional funding for each pupil who qualified for free school meals. If you are able to register and qualify for free school meals before the end of September 2019 your child will receive a £10 book voucher.

If you are in reception, year 1 or year 2 your child may be getting Universal Free School Meals but will still need to apply.

Anyone who has already applied for and is already in receipt of free school meals for September 2019 will also qualify.

Autumn Term Dates 2019

Mon 16 th to Fri 20 th Sept	Year 5/6 Residential Trip to Aylmerton
Thurs 19 th Sept	Year 3 Trip to Celtic Harmony
Mon 23 rd Sept	Clubs Start
Wed 9 th Oct	School Journey Meeting (Sept 2020 - yr 5+6)
Wed 23 rd Oct	School Photographer In
28 th Oct to 1 st Nov	Half-term
w/c Mon 4 th Nov	Book Fair
Wed 6 th Nov	Parent Consultation Appointments 1.10pm to 8pm

Fri 29 th Nov	Non School Uniform Day - Donations for the Christmas Fair
Thurs 5 th Dec	Last Club
Fri 6 th Dec	Christmas Fair
Tues 10 th Dec	10am - Reception/Nursery Performance
Tues 10 th Dec	1.30pm - KS1 Performance
Wed 11 th Dec	1.45pm Reception/Nursery Performance
Wed 11 th Dec	6.30pm KS1 Performance
Thurs 12 th Dec	3.15pm KS2 Carol Concert
Wed 18 th Dec	Christmas Dinner
Fri 20 th Dec	School Finishes at 1.15pm

Term Dates for 2019/20

AUTUMN TERM 2019

Tuesday 3rd September to Friday 20th December
Half-Term Week - Monday 28th October to
Friday 1st November

SPRING TERM 2020

Tuesday 7th January to Friday 3rd April
Half-Term Week - Monday 17th to Friday 21st
February

SUMMER TERM 2020

Monday 20th April to Friday 17th July
Half-Term Week - Monday 25th to Friday 29th
May
No School - 8th May
No School - 22nd May
No School - 22nd June

AUTUMN TERM 2020

Wednesday 3rd September to Friday 18th
December
Half-Term Week - Monday 26th to Friday 30th
October

Jon Hood
Headteacher