



# Denton West End School

## Newsletter

September 2021

### Welcome Back



Welcome to the start of a new academic year at Denton West End Primary School. We are pleased that all the children are back and that we are following our normal routines, although at times it is hard to remember what is 'normal'!

We would like to welcome all of our new nursery and reception children and Emma in Y5, Umar in Y3, Ava in Y6 and Salahadeen in Y1.

I am sure all of our children will soon feel settled and make new friends. We already have lots of smiley faces.

This newsletter will contain some reminders for the new school year.

### COVID 19

As always, with COVID 19 we do not know what may or may not change but will update you as necessary.

We are continuing to have control measures in place including extra hand washing and sanitising, encouraging good respiratory hygiene, ventilating classrooms and extra cleaning. We are asking parents and visitors to wear face masks if they come into the school building. As previously, please do not send your child to school if they are showing any symptoms of COVID 19 but book a PCR test. Rates in Tameside continue to be high.

### Congratulations

Miss Tucker became Mrs Warran over the summer holiday. The wedding was perfect and after such a long wait due to COVID 19 we are all really pleased for her.



### Roofing Works

This work should begin on 13th September. The work will take approximately four months. We are working with the contractors to ensure this causes the minimum disruption to daily school life and that health and safety are of paramount importance. The company are very experienced working on school sites. I will keep you updated.

### DWE 90th Birthday

We are starting to receive some great photographs of past pupils and life at Denton West End over the last 90 years. If you have anything from the past that we can add to our collection then please forward them to us at [DWEbirthday@dweschool.org](mailto:DWEbirthday@dweschool.org).

We will be planning activities for the children over the coming weeks and hope to make a display of any memorabilia.

Many thanks.

### Safeguarding and Child Protection

School has a comprehensive policy that ensures children are kept safe. This is available on the School website. Staff are very vigilant and take great care over the children's well being and safety. In most cases, if we have a concern, we will contact you to discuss any issues. Please don't be alarmed if a member of staff contacts you about a disclosure that your child has made as this is our standard procedure in order to keep children safe.

Likewise if you have any concerns, we prefer parents to be in touch before an issue escalates.

### Consent and Contact Forms

You will have received an emergency contact form to update for the new school year. Please can you ensure that there are at least two people we can contact if your child becomes ill?



We have also sent out the form for Data Protection which asks for permissions. Again, can you please send this back as soon as possible? We keep this on file for the year.

### End of the school day

The staff are very careful to check who is picking your child up at the end of the school day. They soon get to know faces. However, if there are changes to arrangements please will you let us know? If we are not certain of who is picking your child up we will check and hope you appreciate that this is for the safety of your child.

Parents of KS2 children can stand at the back of the playground to meet their child from 3.15pm. Please don't allow younger children to come further into the playground or play on the equipment as they are not supervised by school staff. Also, at this time of the day children are often having a story and this can be distracting. Younger children need to stand with you to keep safe. The KS2 gate will open at 8.50am and 3.10pm.

### Attendance

Good attendance and arriving promptly at school is essential to ensure children make progress and feel safe and secure. We monitor attendance and lates as part of our safeguarding procedures.

It is hoped that the lockdowns and bubble closures will not happen this year unless there are exceptional circumstances. If this is the case Population Health will be advising the school on what measures to take. It is a Government requirement to continue monitoring absence linked to COVID 19. The figures are collected by the DfE daily.

On wet days the doors will open early so that your child isn't late into school and you are not waiting in the rain.



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### Attendance (continued)

If your child is going to be absent could you please inform school by 9.30am? This can be done by leaving a voice message on the answering service. A note in planners on your child's return explaining their absence is also required. This is to ensure absence is accurately recorded. We work closely with our Education Welfare and Safeguarding Officer with those children whose attendance and lateness is causing concern. Any unexplained absences will be marked as unauthorised.

You should also have received a letter about holidays in term time. These will not be granted unless there are exceptional circumstances. It may result in a penalty notice from the Local Authority.

### School Dinners

Costs are £10.75 per week. For children in Reception and KS1 school lunches are free.

We would also remind you not to swap from packed to school dinners week by week. This makes it very difficult to plan and confusing for the children.

If your child is on packed lunches please ensure these are healthy and don't contain more than one treat item. Chocolate bars should not be sent. We also ask that you do not send hot food or nuts into school for health and safety. We have a number of children with severe nut allergies. Our healthy eating leaflet and packed lunch leaflet are on the website if you are stuck for ideas or you require more information.

### Milk and snacks

School continues to provide milk free of charge for all children who want it in nursery, reception and key stage one. If your child would like milk in key stage two this can be ordered but has to be paid for. We will also continue to provide fruit for nursery, reception and key stage one as part of the government Fruit in School Scheme.



School provides toast or fruit free of charge for all children in key stage two. This is alternated each day.

### Water in School

Children should use the DWE water bottle that they received last year. These are replaced every two years. They should be named. Replacements are available for £2. If lids break we will replace these free of charge. We prefer these bottles to be used as some alternatives are too large.

Juice, flavoured water and fizzy drinks are not allowed.

### Uniform and Large Bags

The children look very smart coming back to school. Please make sure, however, that children have sensible school shoes and not trainers or canvas shoes for school. The back playground gets very wet when it rains and children can get soggy feet if they step into the puddles. Children will also need a warm, waterproof coat.

Children also need separate footwear for PE, for hygiene reasons.



Our cloakroom space, as many of you know, is very limited and so children throughout school **must not** bring any type of back pack or large bag to school. The reading book bags can then fit in each child's tray allowing more space for coats and PE kits on pegs. Please ensure long hair is tied back at school.

As always, **please name all items of clothing**. We disposed of several large black sacks of lost property at the end of last term which we couldn't find an owner for.

### Car Parks

May I remind parents that the car parks should not be used by parents. This is for safety reasons. Also, some parents are allowing their children to take a short cut across the car parks; **again this is not safe and is not permitted**.

We have limited space for disabled parking and this is by arrangement with the head.

Please also bear in mind our neighbours and do not park across drives or on the yellow zig zag markings.

### Dogs on Premises

Under no circumstances should dogs be brought onto school premises. This includes the waiting areas near the KS2 playground or near the gates. This is to ensure that we do not have any accidents involving children. **Dogs should be on the pavement only.**

### Finally...

The children have made a wonderful start to the new school year. We are all very excited that this year will enable us to do more of our activities, make visits out of school and welcome parents and visitors back into the building.

Please remember we operate an open door policy at school. If you have any concerns or queries then contact school. This can be through your child's planner or by telephone. It is much better than having to worry about your child.