

**Newsletter Date: 7<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

1<sup>st</sup> Autumn Term – 7 weeks (Week 1)

Dear Parents,



We would like to welcome back all children, parents and staff to Pikes Lane Primary School this year. We hope you had a fantastic summer holiday, and your children are enjoying their new classes. We've popped a few reminders in the newsletter this week on the other side of the page, please take a few moments to read through it.

## What's Happening

**Meet the Teacher – Year 1 and Year 2 – Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September**

**Meet the Teacher – Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September**

**Meet the Teacher – Reception – Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September**

**Half Term: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2018 to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

**Christmas Holidays: Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2018 to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

**February Half Term: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019 to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019**

**Easter holidays: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April to Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April (inclusive)**

**Bank holiday: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

**May Half Term: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2019 to Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June inclusive**

**Term Ends: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

### **Reminder: Holidays**

**The council has now informed us that parents will be fined at 5 days holiday.** Please do not book your holiday before speaking to school. For holidays that are already booked, please be truthful and tell us where your child is. Please remember that children may lose their place.

We are seeing a number of distressed children who have been taken on a long holiday who have missed transition week and the first few days of school. We ask you to consider all of the above when you book your holidays.

## Reminder – School Procedures

**What should I do if my child is ill and can't come to school?** Please ring school before 9am on the morning of EVERY day your child is going to be off school. We must hear from parents every day, whilst we appreciate that this can be annoying, it is for safeguarding purposes, to ensure that you have not sent your child off to school thinking that they have arrived, and we don't know. If your child has vomited or had diarrhea you must keep them off school until they have not had any symptoms for 24 hours.

**I have an appointment for my child, who should I tell?** Please try and make all routine/check-up appointments out of school time. If children are absent for appointments it disrupts their learning considerably, and it disturbs the learning of other children when we have to go and get your child out of class. We appreciate that some appointments are unavoidable i.e. Hospital. If you have to take your child out of school please bring the appointment card/letter for your child's appointment or the absence may go down as unauthorised. Please ensure that you let the office know on the morning of your child's appointment. It is very difficult to get a child out of the hall when there is an assembly or it is lunch time. It will help us greatly if you can let us know in advance.

**I'd like to take my child on holiday, is that possible?** School discourages this at all times. Please note that you already have 13 weeks holiday. If you still think it is absolutely necessary to take your child out of school for a holiday, you MUST make an appointment with Mrs Wallace before booking any tickets and at least 2 weeks before. Last year was very disappointing to see so many Year 2 and Year 6 children taken out of school in such important years. Particularly in these year groups we ask that common sense would prevail and you do not consider holidays in term time. It is also much appreciated if you are honest with school and tell us the genuine reason for a holiday, and the true date that you will be back.

**When should I pay dinner money?** Dinner money should be paid every Monday to the class teacher. It is also possible to pay dinner money at the beginning of every half term. The cost for school dinners is £7 per week for all children in Year 3 upwards.

**I'm going to be late this morning!** Please try to bring your children on time every day. Punctuality is very closely monitored, and letters are sent to the parents of children that are often late. Children are also rewarded in assemblies/class for excellent punctuality. We have a Beat the Bell award on the weekly newsletter which recognises the class that has the best attendance for that week. We know that at times it is not possible to be punctual i.e. traffic etc. If you are late please bring your child to the main office and we will take their name to ensure that we know they are in school.

**I can't pick my child up tonight? I'm going to be late!** If you are going to be late for school, please call the office as soon as you know and the child/ren will wait in reception for you. Letting us know in advance means that the children do not panic and get upset when no one arrives for them. Please note that you cannot regularly turn up late for your child. We do not offer an out of school provision in the evenings. If you are sending someone different to collect your child and they are in Caterpillars, Nursery, Reception, Year 1, 2 or 3 you must let the office know or we cannot send your child home with them.

**Do you have a Breakfast Club or After School Club?** Yes we have a Breakfast Club but we do not have an After School Club. Children from Reception to Year 6 can come to our Breakfast Club from 8am every morning. The cost is 50p per child and we run lots of fun activities including multi-sports, art and crafts, Wake Up and Shake Up, yoga, help with homework, theme weeks, and family breakfast at the end of terms. Come along and join us! There are a variety of breakfast choices available, including cereal, toast, eggs, beans.

**What should I do if my child needs medicine in school time?** We can only give medicines that have a doctors/chemist label on that states your child's name and is to be taken **4 times a day**. If your child needs medicine 3 times a day we are not allowed to give it. The medicine should be given in the morning, after school and at bedtime. If your child needs cream applying please ask the teacher for children younger than Year 3 and for children over Year 3, please teach them how to apply it themselves. If your child has asthma inhalers should be given to the class teacher to be kept in the classroom.