



Manor Road, Middleton, Manchester, M24 1JZ 0161 643 6357  
email: [office@alkrington.rochdale.sch.uk](mailto:office@alkrington.rochdale.sch.uk) Website: [www.alkrington.rochdale.sch.uk](http://www.alkrington.rochdale.sch.uk)  
Head teacher: Mr. T. Barnes

6<sup>th</sup> September 2018

## New School Year 2018 – 2019 General Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back, I hope that you had a good summer. The children have returned to school looking very smart in their school uniform and ready to do their best. A number of matters for your attention:

### Staffing Update - Welcome to:

- i. Mrs Ellahi Teacher in Y5
- ii. Mrs Harisiwka Teacher in Y5
- iii. Mrs Erkal TA3 in Nursery
- iv. Mrs Hart TA2 in Reception ( Formerly a TA1 )
- v. Mr Cummiskey TA2 in Y2
- vi. Mrs Gibbons TA2 in Y5 ( Formerly a TA1 and Lunchtime organiser )
- vii. Mrs Connor TA1 in Y2 ( Formerly a TA1 )
- viii. New staff in the Clubhouse / ASC – Mrs Bell, Mrs Kelso, Mrs Orton

### Summer Holiday Works

School has been a busy place over the summer. My thanks to Mrs Cresswell, our Business Manager and Mrs Hill, who have worked through the summer holiday, who have coordinated and supported a range of improvements to our school, these include:

- Operating the Summer Holiday Club, childcare for the first two weeks of the summer break.
- The Mark Allott Football school operated here during the summer holiday and is booked for the middle three days of the October holiday too.
- The pipework throughout the school for hot and cold water has been replaced
- The Nursery has been extended into an adjoining room and has been refurbished in other areas to accommodate the additional children admitted for this year.
- The school kitchen has been refurbished and old equipment replaced. This is because the school now employs the catering staff directly and provides the meals service rather than the previous arrangement where we bought into a service provided by Rochdale.

### After School Club (ASC)

There are new arrangements for the ASC to accommodate the additional pupils attending.

Children in the **Nursery, Reception and Y1** year groups will attend in the Community Rooms – as used previously.

Children in **Y2 to Y6** will be based in the small (infant) hall.

When collecting your child this week just report to the door at the Community Rooms and you will be directed through school. By next week we will have a doorbell at the entrance which Y1 and 2 children use, which is closer to the small hall if you are just collecting from there.

### Outcomes for pupils at Alkrington in 2018

Outcomes at the end of Y6 and the Reception year represent a good level of achievement. Here is a summary:

**EYFS – 2018 60 Pupils** Pupils with a Good Level of Development

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
% achieving a GLD	38%	47%	57%	70%	61%	72%
National Average	52%	60%	66%	69%	71%	LA 65%

**Y1 Phonics** % of pupils achieving at the expected standard

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
School	58%	88%	97%	95%	93%	92%	92%
National	58%	69%	74%	77%	81%	81%	

**KS1 – 2018 59 Pupils** % of pupils achieving at and above the expected standard

	School at expected 2018	2018 NA at Expected	School at GDS 2018	2018 NA at GDS
Reading	<b>81</b>	76	<b>19</b>	25
Writing	<b>66</b>	70	<b>7</b>	16
Maths	<b>80</b>	76	<b>15</b>	21
Science	<b>81</b>	Not known	<b>n/a</b>	n/a
R/W/M Combined	<b>63</b>	65	<b>2</b>	12

**KS2 – 2018 61 Pupils** % of pupils achieving at and above expected levels

	At Expected School 2018	NA for 2018	School at GDS 2018	NA for 2018	Average Scaled score 2018	NA Scaled scores 2018
Reading	85	75	18	19	104	105
Writing	82	78	3	15	n/a	n/a
Mathematics	85	76	18	17	105	104
GPS	92	78	39	22	108	106
Combined R/W/M	74	64		5		
Science			n/a	Not yet known		

- NA = National Average 2018 ( where known ) GDS = At greater Depth / Higher standard
- All results are still provisional, NA = National Average
- Combined R/W/M is the proportion of pupils who achieve the expected level in all three subjects; reading, writing and mathematics. GPS is Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling.
- Expected Scaled Score is 100
- Progress measures range from -5 to +5 and 0 represents progress from Y2 to Y6 and is in line with the national average; therefore any score above 0 is better.

**School Priorities for the new school year**

Our Governing Board devised a three-year plan from last September, with the stated aim that:

***'We will be the school of choice for parents, pupils and staff; regardless of religious belief, socioeconomic status or cultural background.'***

The detail which leads from this aim is included in the School Improvement Plan for 2017 – 2018, and once finalised will be available on the school website. The main areas of focus for this year will be:

**Draft Key Priorities from Sept 2018**

- Improving outcomes in writing
- Mathematics – Particularly reasoning and problem solving
- The Curriculum – with an emphasis on ICT and Science

As last year we will have a theme week each term on the following areas of the curriculum:

1. Be Healthy and Stay Safe
2. Community Contribution
3. Outdoor Learning

We welcome, as always, the views of parents and carers about our school, and we believe strongly that your opinions are important. If you have comments or suggestions which might help to improve the provision at Alkrington Primary School, please let me know, in person, on the 'phone or by email, for my attention at **office@alkrington.rochdale.sch.uk**

### **Back to School Reminders**

Here are some reminders about kit and school uniform for the start of this new school year. It is important that all children stick to the rules regarding uniform so please make every effort to ensure that your child comes to school each day appropriately dressed and equipped.

#### **Uniform consists of:**

- White shirt (Not a 'polo' shirt please)
- School tie
- Grey skirt or trousers, with grey or navy tights
- Navy blue sweatshirt, cardigan or jumper
- Plain coloured socks – white, navy, black or grey
- Black shoes (with black laces if required)
- No extreme haircuts, tramlines or logos shaved in. If children come to school with such haircuts, they may be sent home until the haircut is 'corrected'.
- Long hair should be tied back, to reduce the risk of the spread of head lice. Use only plain hair bobbles and bands
- Jewellery is not allowed, with the exception of a watch. Children should not wear earrings, but if they must, a small discrete stud should be worn which should be removed or covered for PE or other activities where the risk of injury is greater.
- Make sure that your child has a coat, with a zip or buttons, not just a hooded top.

#### **PE kit consists of:**

- White T shirt and navy/dark blue or black shorts
- Black pumps for indoor PE, trainers for outdoors

During the course of this year we are changing the PE kit. More information will follow, but a new navy printed T-Shirt will soon be available. **For new starters in the Reception year group** a free PE kit, consisting of T-shirt, shorts and PE bag will be provided, parents will need to provide black pumps. They will be ready before the end of September. For others the new T-shirts will be made available soon.

**Dinner money** The cost of a school dinner is £2.15 per day or £10.75 per full week – due on the first morning of each week. We no longer send dinner money change home – any change due will be credited to the following week. Please send money in an envelope marked with your child's name. We encourage payment online, instructions to follow for new starters, existing parents can find instructions on the letter on the school website. An extra copy is now on the Home page, near the top.

If you would like some help it would be possible to come to a 'Help Session' on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September from 9.00 a.m. in the Community Rooms ( Where After School Club operate ).

#### **Links with Parents and Carers**

There will be opportunities for parents and carers to visit their child's new class and meet the teacher and support staff at a **Welcome Event**. This will be next week; beginning 10<sup>th</sup> September. You are welcome to visit your child(ren)'s new class(es) from about 3.25 p.m. for around 15 minutes, meet the staff and listen to their advice. The days are:

**Monday Y1 and Y5      Tuesday Y3      Wednesday Y2 and Y6      Thursday Y4**

**The meetings for Reception and Nursery Parents and carers will be later in September, once all of the new children are in and settled.**

Each child will be given a Home-School Planner as a means of communication between parents and staff. This is an important item which should be brought into school and taken home each day. If lost, a replacement costs £3.50

#### **Homework**

Homework for children in Y1 to Y6 will be given each week as follows:

- **Spellings – given out on Monday for a test on Friday**
- **Reading activities – we expected that you support your child at least 3 times each week in listening to him/her read and sharing books and stories. Make sure that you record this in the 'Planner'.**
- **Mathematics – Basic skills practice – arrangements will vary from class to class.**

Each class will also have topic work homework to be completed over a period of a number of weeks or a half term, building up to a Gallery of work from home and class to be displayed for viewing by other children.

### **School Lunches**

Each child in the Reception, Y1 and Y2 classes is entitled to a free school meal. I hope that you choose this provision. This would be a saving of almost £400 per year on the cost of a paid meal each day.

Children in all year groups may be entitled to a free school meal (FSM), subject to their circumstances and income. Parents and carers can apply for this, and school will help.

In the coming weeks we will give more instructions and invite applications from all parents and carers for the FSM entitlement. School receives additional funding for each child who is entitled so we want to encourage as many to do so as possible.

If your child has a packed lunch, please bear the following advice in mind:

A balanced meal would consist, in the view of the Rochdale Healthy Schools group, of:

- A drink
- A carbohydrate food, such as bread, potatoes, rice, pasta or noodles
- Fruit and vegetables – try to include 2-3 different fruits or vegetables each day
- A protein food – such as chicken, turkey, fish, ham, egg, cheese or humus
- A dairy food such a milk, yoghurt, cheese or fromage frais

Packed lunches should **not** include:

- Fizzy drinks – or glass bottles for safety reasons.
- Chocolate bars (e.g. Dairy Milk, Mars Bar etc. – Kit Kat, Blue Riband, Penguin bars etc are OK ) or Sweets

### **School Attendance**

See the attached holiday schedule for the new school year. Requests for holidays during term time will not be authorised so please ensure that holidays are not taken in term time. Last year we issued a record number of Fixed Penalty Fines when children had a holiday in term time.

If your child is absent from school for more than 3 days you will need to provide medical evidence of the reason for absence, i.e. a note from the doctor or hospital.

Well done to those children, who during 2017 – 2018 had 100% attendance: They received a golden 100% badge. I will take a photograph of the winners and include it in next week's letter.

### **Lateness**

If your child arrives at school after 9.15 a.m. this is recorded as an unauthorised absence.

If your child is not collected by 3.25 p.m. at the end of the school day, they will be taken to the library, in the middle of school and this recorded in the Late Book. If there is no-one to collect your child by 3.30 p.m. they will be taken to the After School Club and you will be expected to pay a charge. We appreciate that there are, on occasions, emergencies and difficult family situations and if your child will be collected late please 'phone the office to explain.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. T. Barnes - Headteacher

**Alkrington Primary School**



## Holiday Schedule 2018 / 2019

Holiday	School Opens	School Closes	Pupil Days
	<b>Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Sep 2018</b>	<b>Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Oct 2018</b>	33
<b>Autumn Half Term</b>	Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct to Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> Oct inclusive		
	<b>Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Oct 2018</b>	<b>Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Dec 2018</b>	40
<b>Christmas</b>	Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec to Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan inclusive		
	<b>Mon 7<sup>th</sup> Jan 2019</b>	<b>Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2019</b>	30
<b>Spring Half Term</b>	Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb to Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb inclusive		
	<b>Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Feb 2019</b>	<b>Fri 5<sup>th</sup> Apr 2019</b>	30
<b>Easter</b>	Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> Apr to 22 <sup>nd</sup> April inclusive May Day Bank Holiday – Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> May		
	<b>Tue 23<sup>rd</sup> Apr 2019</b>	<b>Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2019</b>	23
	<b>Tue 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019</b>	<b>Fri 24<sup>th</sup> May 2019</b>	
<b>Summer Half Term</b>	Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> May to Fri 31 <sup>st</sup> May inclusive		
	<b>Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019</b>	<b>Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019</b>	34
		Total pupil days	190

**SATs Week for Y6 begins on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019**