



HIMBLETON CE FIRST SCHOOL AND NURSERY
NEIGHT HILL
HIMBLETON
DROITWICH
WORCS
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EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER: MR S PAYNE

7th September 2018

Welcome to the new School Year!

Hopefully everyone has enjoyed a lovely summer break and feels refreshed and ready for the new term. We have an exciting year planned and are looking to working with you and your children.

As we begin this new school year, there is a lot of information to share with you. Some may be familiar, but there are changes of which you need to be aware, **so please take the time to read this thoroughly.**

WELCOME

We are pleased to welcome the following children and their families:

Nursery: Freya Irving, Alexander Hodge, Atticus Snell and Elsie May Harris
Year 2: Michael Mutariswa
Year 3: Madeline Wallis

We also welcome our new Executive Head, Mr Payne, Mrs White to KS1, Mrs Hampton as PPA cover teacher and Mrs Gibbs as After School Care leader. There will be plenty of opportunities to get to know these new members of staff and I am sure you will extend a warm 'Himbleton Welcome' to them all.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

It is important that the school holds correct and up-to-date contact details for your child. Attached is a copy of the Emergency Contact Details we now hold in school for your child. Please make any necessary alterations or additions and return it to the school office **immediately**. If you are happy with the information held please sign and date the form before returning it.

In the unlikely event of an emergency it is these sheets that we refer to, so please ensure that the form is completed with as much information as possible (at least two emergency contacts is preferable) and remember to inform us promptly of any new information should your circumstances change in the future.

MEDICAL NEEDS

It is imperative that we are aware of any medical issues, no matter how small, that affect your child. This includes allergies. Mrs Wallis, Mrs Griffiths and Mrs Ford are our First Aiders. They can be available to discuss medical needs and care plans by appointment. All medical information will be dealt with sensitively. Please do not hesitate to make an appointment if you need to.

COMMUNICATIONS

Sending letters and information by email and text has proven to be both effective and popular with parents so we will continue to use these methods for the majority of letters and information. Please ensure that you have provided the school office with your correct email address and mobile number. If you do not have an email address please let Mrs Hodgson know so that paper copies can be provided.

You will continue to receive request for consent letters via the book bags.

GENERAL CONSENT FORMS

During the year your child may be involved in educational visits around our village such as visiting the

church, local woodlands or farms etc where no transport is required and which happen during the school day.

We will of course inform parents of such visits but the attached form will mean a permission slip will not be required each time. We will however ask you to complete a separate consent for any visit where coach travel is involved.

Please sign and return the consent from below. In doing so you will also be giving the school permission to arrange medical and dental treatment in the case of an emergency.

FOOD TASTING ACTIVITIES

Throughout the year we sometimes ask the children to take part in food tasting activities as this can make the topics they learn about more interesting and fun.

Can you please sign and return the consent slip below to give permission for your child to take part in food tasting activities and inform us of any known allergies.

Your quick response would be appreciated so that we can begin such activities as soon as possible.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Although consent is requested as children enter the school there is a new comprehensive consent form attached. Please complete and return it as soon as possible. This will ensure that our information is up-to-date and centralised.

SCHOOL OFFICE

Mrs Hodgson is available from 8.30am– 4pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday each week. However, we recognise that the beginning and end of the school day can be very busy times, so we have placed a red 'drop & run' postbox in the foyer, where parents can safely leave paperwork for the school office without being delayed.

You are most welcome to talk with Mrs Hodgson if you feel this is more appropriate.

THE SCHOOL DAY

There will be **staff on the playground from 8.45am** each morning. Before this time, children must be accompanied by parent/carer. Teaching staff will always be available outside so that if you have any questions then you have the facility to ask. In addition Mrs Wallis as Lead Teacher will also regularly be on the gate.

The school day starts at 9am prompt when the bell rings. Teachers will lead their classes into school and registers will be taken. Children who arrive after this time will be marked absent and must be signed in by an adult at the school office. Repeated late arrival will result in a letter and a formal meeting with the Executive Headteacher.

To report an **absence from school**, please telephone the school office **before 9.15am**.

At 3pm, the end of the day, teachers will accompany children onto the playground to ensure they are collected by parents/carers. We understand from time to time children have play dates or arrangements need to be made for a different adult to pick up. If this is the case, please save confusion and upset by letting the school office know in advance.

Occasionally unexpected delays occur which makes parents late to pick up. If this happens, a quick phone call to let us know means we can reassure your child. Persistent late pick-ups cannot be accepted as staff are not available to supervise the children and parents may therefore incur charges.

CELEBRATION COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Every Friday morning parents are invited to join our Collective Worship at 9.10am in the KS1 Classroom (accessed via the side gate). This is an opportunity for parents to be involved in school life.

Each week we will be recognising achievements. There will be awards for children who have displayed outstanding work, good attendance and excellent values. There will also be House points awarded, and we will be celebrating birthdays and other noteworthy news.

'FOREST ACTIVITIES'

Now that we have a set of Forest School dungarees for every child in school we are able to be flexible with our Forest School activities and lessons for all classes can be delivered throughout the week. Please ensure that your child has a pair of wellies and an old waterproof coat in school at all times

SWIMMING

Our first swimming session is **Friday, September 21st**.

During the **Autumn Term Years 3 and 4** will be swimming at Perdiswell Pool in Worcester on a Friday morning. Please complete and return the attached permissions slip to enable your child to take part.

Children in **Years 1 and 2 will swim in the Spring term**, and **Nursery and Reception will swim in the Summer Term**. Permission slips and donations for these year groups will be requested nearer the time.

The law regarding activities that take place during school hours states that only **voluntary contributions** to cover costs can be requested from parents/guardians, and that no child will be excluded from such trips/activities if their parents/guardians feel unable to provide a voluntary contribution. However, visits/activities can only go ahead if sufficient contributions are received. The Governing Body recommends that, when voluntary contributions are requested, a written application for a remission of charges, in part or in full, is made to the Head Teacher. In order for swimming to take place we ask for a contribution towards costs: **£20 per term**.

For swimming children need a towel and an appropriate clean, bathing costume in a named swimming bag. Children with long hair must have their hair tied up and we recommend swimming caps are worn. Boys need to wear trunks rather than loose shorts for safety in the pool and teaching purposes. Girls need to wear a swimming costume rather than a two-piece. **No jewellery should be worn on swimming days**. If your child prefers to wear goggles when swimming, please make sure you have completed and returned a permission slip available from the school office.

PE

PE kits should be left in school. We will send them home as and when they need a wash!

Please ensure **all items are named**. Girls will need spare socks in their kits during the winter months when they wear tights to school. During the winter months we suggest a tracksuit is sent in with their kit.

HOT LUNCHES

As you are aware this term we have a new provider, Aspens Vintage Events, who are delivering an exciting menu with plenty of choices and ordering flexibility. Children in Reception, Years 1 and 2 are entitled to receive a meal provided the Government's Universal Free School Meal scheme. All parents should now have logged in and be able to access the ordering system, but if you do experience problems please let Mrs Hodgson know, she will be happy to help.

If your child is ill or absent from school please cancel your order before 9am.

Today 45 children had school meals and feedback has been very positive – children are enjoying their meals and in particular loving the new salad bar. There will be more opportunities for parents to meet representatives from Aspens and to sample the food in the forthcoming weeks. Details to follow.

WRAP AROUND CARE

Our Breakfast **Club** and **After School Care** continue to be very popular. If you need to make a regular booking please contact the school office as soon as possible. 'Ad-hoc' places will be offered whenever spaces are available but ideally these should be booked at least 24 hours in advance.

In the mornings, when dropping off at Breakfast Club and also in the evenings when collecting from After School Club please use the side gate and enter through the conservatory door. If the gate is locked, please ring the bell on the front of the school.

HOUSES

After a successful introduction last year we will be continuing with our House System and children will soon learn which house they have been allocated so they can feel part of a team. The four houses are named after people from Worcestershire and are in line with Pinvin Federation. The houses are Choules, Hastings, Elgar and Scott and Morris and are represented by different colours. Pupils will collect house points on a daily basis and as the year evolves they will participate in House Competitions from sports to spelling bees.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

All children should wear full school uniform at all times in line with our uniform policy. This includes footwear. Summer uniform should be worn until October half term. For boys this is Polo shirts and shorts, not trousers. Trousers are winter uniform and should be worn with shirts and ties.

All children should be using the school book bags as provided on entry. Replacements can be purchased if required from the school office.

Full details, including how to purchase all uniform, is available on the website or from the school office.

Nearly new uniform is available from Lisa Irving, (Cerys & Freya's mum).

We must also insist that long hair is tied up with sensible, discreet bands and clips in Himbleton School colours. No 'Jo-Jo Bows' please. Nail polish and tattoos should not be worn for school and the only jewellery permitted is small 'stud' type earrings, but these should not be worn on swimming days.

We appreciate your cooperation with this.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITY CLUBS

Details of clubs on offer this term will be sent out shortly.

JUNIOR HEAD BOY & GIRL

We will very shortly be appointing a Head Boy and Head Girl from Year 4. They will be nominated by their classmates. As Head Boy and Girl they will be ambassadors for the school and will represent the school as a whole throughout the year. These will be announced at the Celebration Worship on Friday 14th September.

PUPIL PARLIAMENT

This will be formed from 2 children from each year group and will be led by a member of staff. The Pupil Parliament will be the voice of all the children. It is expected they will meet regularly to discuss hot topics within the school. Voting and nominations are currently taking place and the results will also be announced in Celebration Worship on Friday 14th.

SEESAW & TAPESTRY

We will be using both Tapestry (EYFS) and Seesaw (KS1 & KS2). They are both an effective and popular means for school and parents to share the children's learning.

Full Tapestry information, including log in details will be issued shortly to new EYFS parents.

Year 1 children and new starters will be receiving Seesaw information very shortly. Please see Mrs Griffiths if this is not the case.

MEET THE TEACHER

You are invited to 'Meet the Teacher' on **Monday 17th at 3.15pm**. This is a very informal occasion, please come if you can to visit your child's class and to get to know the teachers. This will also be an opportunity to check out the school meals as Aspens will be attending with food for you to sample

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

We will be supporting this national event on Friday 28th September. Parents are invited to stop for coffee and cake at 9am. More details (including requests for cake donations) will be issued nearer the time. Please 'save the date' and come along to help us to raise money for this very worthy cause.

VOLUNTEERS PLEASE!

We are always keen for parents, family and friends to come into school to hear children read. If you have time to offer, please have a word with Mrs Hodgson.

We are also keen to hear from anyone who can offer a 'skill', such as artwork or cookery and are happy to volunteer a session with children. Please chat to a member of staff

OPEN MORNING

We do have limited spaces in our school and the best form of advertising is recommendation. So, if you know of anyone who may be interested in coming to our lovely school, please suggest they contact us to arrange a visit.

Similarly if you have friends with children due to start school in September 2019, or children aged 3 who may be interested in our Nursery, please encourage them to consider Himbleton. Applications for Reception 2019 can be made now via the Worcestershire County Council website, or for Nursery places contact Mrs Hodgson in the school office.

There will be an open morning on **Thursday 25th October** – please spread the word!

Himbleton Church of England First School
CONSENT TO TAKE PART IN OFF-SITE ACTIVITIES (all children)

My child..... may take part in local off-site activities within the school day.

I agree to medical and/or dental treatment being given if necessary, including the administration of a general anaesthetic and to surgical operations in the case of emergency, in accordance with the recommendation of a qualified medical practitioner. (If this permission cannot be given, we are not allowed to take the child)

Signature of Parent/GuardianDate

Himbleton Church of England First School
CONSENT TO TAKE PART IN FOOD TASTING ACTIVITIES (all children)

My child..... may take part in food tasting activities during the school year 2018/19

Details of any known allergies.....

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Signature of Parent/GuardianDate

Himbleton Church of England First School
SWIMMING CONSENT (KS2 only)

I give permission for (name of child) to be taken out of School on Thursdays to travel by coach to Perdiswell Swimming Pool for swimming lessons.

Years 3 & 4 ~ Autumn Term 2018

I include a voluntary contribution of £20. (*Cash or Cheques payable to Worcestershire County Council*)

Signature of Parent/GuardianDate

DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES

Friday 14 th September	9.10am	Celebration Collective Worship. Parents welcome
Monday 17 th September	3.15pm	Meet the Teacher,
Friday 28 th September	9am	Macmillan Coffee Morning. All welcome
Wednesday 26 th September	2.15pm	School Harvest Service, Himbleton Church. All welcome
Tuesday 16 th October	9am	School Photographer
Thursday 25 th October	9.30am	Open Morning.
Monday 29th October – Friday 2nd November		HALF TERM
Friday 10 th November	9.15am	Service of Remembrance in School
Monday 12 th November	5.30- 7.30pm	Parents Evening
Tuesday 13 th November	3.15- 5.15pm	Parents Evening
Wednesday 14 th November		Flu Immunisations
Tuesday 11 th December	2pm	Nativity, Himbleton Church
Wednesday 12 th December	2pm	Nativity, Himbleton Church
Thursday 13 th December	6pm	Nativity, Himbleton Church
Friday 21 st December	am	Christmas Party
Friday 21 st December	am	Christmas lunch
Friday 21 st December	2.15pm	Carol Service, Himbleton Church. All welcome
