



## Welcome back

A very warm welcome to parents and children new and old and I hope that you have all had a great summer; lovely to have some good weather as well for once!

We have had a very positive start to the year with children showing great behaviour and enthusiasm. Our school motto is "Choosing Brilliance" and I have seen lots of shining examples of this over the first couple of days; great writing in lots of classes, brilliant manners from children across the school and children showing great maturity in settling in to their new classes. Well done to you all and a fantastic beginning to the year.

I look forward to speaking to you all in the playground and as ever, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to ask.

## Free School Meals for Reception, Year 1 & Year 2

From this term, all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to free school lunches. If your child currently has a packed lunch, but you would like them to have a free school meal (FSM), please contact the school office to let them know you wish to change.

## Opportunities to come in to school for parents

We're really pleased that so many parents took the opportunity to see the new school building last term. We will be offering further opportunities to parents to come in to school and see what's going on during the course of this year. Keep your eyes peeled for further information.

## Building works

Building work on the new playground is continuing every day. We hope to be able to open the new playground at the beginning of October. It'll be a big improvement on our previous playground and we can't wait!

## School uniform

Please note that uniform is available to purchase direct from Ace Clothing at <http://aceclothing.co.uk/shop/>. Our uniform is at the top of their list.

Please make sure that children's names are written on all items.

## Lining up in the playground

**"1, 2, 3, eyes on me..."**

Many parents will have seen our routine for lining up in the morning, whereby we have a brief call-and-response chant with the children. This is a signal to the children that time for talking is over and that they should be standing silently in line, facing the teacher, ready to enter the building. It sets the tone for the day and really helps the children to begin their day's learning in a calm and focused way. Please try to say your goodbyes to your child before this occurs so that your child is able to focus on their teacher's instructions from the very beginning of the day. Also, please bear in mind that teachers are unable to speak to parents after the bell has rung.

## After-school clubs

These will be starting in the near future. Please see Miss Davis if you have any questions or queries about our extra-curricular provision.

## New faces

We are very happy to welcome new members of staff. Miss Helen Smith is teaching in Loughborough Class, Miss Melanie Lintott is teaching in Warwick Class and Miss Tiffany Leers is teaching in Bristol Class. Mr Joe Crosby is teaching with Miss Grubb in York Class and Miss Megan Charlton is teaching with Mr Mackey in Oxford Class.

## Punctuality

As you know, it is vital that children are in school every day and on time. Absence and lateness means less learning. Children who arrive late often miss important things which affect their learning for part or all of the day. Please make sure your child is on time and **in the playground by 8.55 am** each morning.

## Attendance

Our target for this year is **96%**.

Attendance figures will be available in the next newsletter on Friday 19th September. Please remember, holidays in term time will not be authorised, and may lead to a fine from the Educational Welfare Service.

**Dominic Smith**

---





