



## NEWSLETTER

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024

### New School

We are excited to start the year in our new school building. Please be patient as we make adjustments and find the best way to use the space. Once we are settled in we will be in contact with parents/carers to invite them in to have a look around.

### A Special Welcome...

A very special welcome back to everyone! In particular to our new Year One and Nursery children and anyone joining us for the first time this year. We are really looking forward to working with you all.

### Diary Dates:

Tuesday 10th Sept- Nursery Parent Induction evening. Further information will be sent out.

Wed 18th Sept- Paws B in Y6

### ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEW SCHOOL

- A letter was sent home on Seesaw with details of arrangements for dropping off and collecting pupils.
- Parents/Carers or anyone dropping or collecting pupils should not go beyond the gates. Staff will be available if you need to pass on a message or speak to someone.
- The gates will close at 9.05am. If you arrive late you must sign your child in at the school office at the main entrance.
- Please make sure you supervise your child as they leave the school building and do not let children climb on fences or walk across the areas with soil in them. These will eventually be planted out by landscapers.

### CAR PARK

When coming into the school car park please turn left and use the one-way system. Please do not park in the area opposite the hall (on the right as you come in the gates - this parking is for staff and construction staff)

### PERMISSION SLIPS

Please ensure you return the GDPR form. Pupils in P4-P7 were also given a permission to walk home form. Please ensure these are returned.

### STAFF COMPLEMENT - REMINDER

Class Teachers

Class	Teacher
N	Mrs Henry
Y1	Mrs McCrea Mrs Hughes
Y2	Mrs McIlwaine
Y3	Mrs Mullan
Y4	Mrs Martin Mrs Bradford
Y5	Mrs Conway
Y6	Mr Crooks
Y7	Mr Kelly Miss Menary
ENGAGE	Mrs Bradford

### Special Needs Coordinator (SENCO):

Mrs Conway

### Child Protection Team (Safeguarding Team):

Child Protection Policy and Safeguarding Team

Please find a copy of our Child Protection Policy on our school website. If you have any concerns about a child, then please speak to a member of the Safeguarding Team:

Designated Teacher: Mrs Martin (Y4 Teacher) and Mrs Conway (Year 5 Teacher)

Deputy Designated Teacher: Mr Kelly (Y7 Teacher/VP) Mrs McCrea (Y1 Teacher) and Mrs Henry (Nursery Teacher)

Principal: Mrs Watson/Mr Kelly

### **Breakfast club from 8.15AM**

Children who wish to have a breakfast can come into school from 8.15am. Breakfast will cost £1 per child. Parents can drop children off but please use the drop off bays to the left. Do not turn right as you come into the site as this area is reserved for staff and construction staff.

Children should enter at the main hall from 8.15. Once they finish their breakfast, they can go to the playground at 8.30am.

Breakfast club will close at 8.45am.

### **PHOENIX IS 20 YEARS OLD!**

Happy birthday to our very special school. This year we will be organising a range of events to celebrate. This will include official opening of our new school in term 2.

The pupils in Years4-7 are very excited as they will soon begin rehearsals to put on "Matilda the musical" in term one. Information about auditions etc will be sent home on Seesaw.

Children in Year 1-3 will be performing the Nativity at Christmas.

### **SCHOOL BAGS**

We prefer everyone to use Phoenix School bags as they are part of our school uniform. Book bags Y1-2, Ruck Sacks 3-7. These can be purchased by sending money in an envelope clearly marked to the class teacher. Book bags are £8 and rucksacks are £10. Year 1 will be provided with a Book Bag free of charge.

### **PE INFORMATION**

Pupils should come to school **dressed in their full P.E kit on these days.** Please ensure that your child comes to school with their **coat every day** as many P.E sessions will take place outside.

Year Group	Days to wear full P.E kit to school	Activity
Year 1	Monday	P.E
	Wednesday	P.E
Year 2	Wednesday	P.E
	Friday	P.E
Year 3	Monday	P.E
	Wednesday	P.E
Year 4	Tuesday	P.E
	Friday	Swimming
Year 5	Tuesday	Swimming
	Wednesday	P.E
Year 6	Wednesday	P.E
	Thursday	P.E
Year 7	Monday	P.E
	Wednesday	P.E

If PE dates change the class teacher will let you know.

### **AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS**

Afterschool clubs are due to commence the week beginning 16<sup>th</sup> September. Further information will be sent home.

### **HEALTHY BREAK!**

<http://www.childrensfoodtrust.org.uk/childrens-food-trust/parents/>

As the school participates in Healthy Break Programme which is encouraged by the Dept of Education please support us by sending in fresh fruit, fresh vegetables or plain bread based snack for your child (Y2-7). In line with healthy eating guidelines for Primary Schools, the snack should be fruit, vegetable or bread based with no sugary spreads. Crisps, bars, etc are not acceptable as break choices but can be eaten at lunch time. In addition, it is **water only** at school - no juice in water bottles. Check out the School Food Trust website for support with healthy snacks and lunchboxes.

**School Dinner Costs**- School dinners this year will be £2.60 per day, £13.00 per week paid via the school money app.

**Free School Meals** you MUST apply every year. This can now be done online via the Education Authority website. You need to check to ensure your child is on our Free School List **before** you send them for a cooked meal. Dinners should be paid for until you are sure your FSM application has been granted. Check in with Mrs Purvis at the office.

## **How do we contact parents?**

We currently use the following ways to keep in touch - Text service, Facebook, Newsletter, Website, Class Online Platforms (SEESAW), telephone and letter/note.

If you are contacting staff on Seesaw, please do not send messages before 8.30am or after 4.30pm.

**Please remember to check Seesaw regularly for messages sent by your child's class teacher.**

In line with safe use of the internet we would like to remind you of the following points for using social media:

1. Please do not mention any child's name in a post - tag a parent if you want to share.
2. If you have a problem with anything in school, please address directly with school. Message facility on FB is not used as a means of communication - we prefer direct contact. Please ring or speak directly to someone at school if you have any messages, etc.
3. Please follow the guidance in our SEESAW agreement and do not contact or message staff after 4.30pm. This is to protect staff family time. If you have a concern wait until the morning when you can ring the school.

**Please keep us informed of any changes in personal information, especially Telephone numbers.**

## **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

Everyone looks very smart in their school uniform. To support the school please ensure your child wears correct school uniform at all times including the correct shoes, which should be black.

- Children should not wear any type of "labelled" tracksuit bottoms for PE days. Plain black bottoms only - no sports brands.
- We notice some children wearing coloured trainers in their day uniform. Shoes must be all black or trainers that are all black.
- Jewellery should not be worn (except plain stud earrings).
- Both boys and girls with long hair should have it tied back.

Teachers will be in contact to discuss any uniform issues.

Thank you for your support with this.

**Please label uniforms with your child's name. So many sweatshirts and jumpers go missing and it is very difficult for us to monitor this!**

## **NUT FREE ZONE!**

Due to allergies in school we are a completely **NUT FREE ZONE**. Please respect this when you are preparing lunch boxes and snacks.

## **MUSIC LESSONS**

We will continue to offer tin whistle, guitar, singing and piano lessons. This year we will also offer lessons with the EA music tuition service.

Ryan McGarrity will commence tin whistle and guitar lessons on 13<sup>th</sup> September for all pupils.

Further information will be sent home in due course.

