

Dear Parents, children and families,

Welcome back! We hope you all had a lovely well earned break. 😊 After a whirlwind couple of school years, we hope this year will see a bit of normality back. We are itching to start planning some of our family events that have been unable to take place since 2019! Watch this space! 🙌 As a consequence of all the disruption caused by Covid, we have made the decision to adjust the way we do Parents Day.

**Please read the important information overleaf!**

## Back



## Reminders

- **Attendance and lateness:** It is vital for your child to attend school every day and to arrive on time. It is a well-known fact that children with high attendance records have a greater chance of becoming successful learners. If your child is ill, it is important that you inform the school immediately. Please also note that our finish time is 3:30pm. Children must be picked up promptly.
- **P.E. Kits:** Please take note of what day your child will be having P.E. They will need to come to school wearing their PE kit on this day: - a light T-shirt, shorts or leggings and a pair of trainers for outdoor activities or plimsolls for gymnastics/indoor activities.
- **Uniform:** All children are expected to wear school uniform - black/grey trousers or skirt, green jumper or cardigan, white shirt or polo and black shoes. All head coverings should be plain green, white or black only.
- **Social Media:** We use twitter, facebook and our website regularly throughout the school year to share news and photos and other key information. Please check it regularly to stay up to date :-)
- **Parent Pay:** Some Parents have not yet signed up for Parent Pay. **Please be aware that even if your child receives Free School Meals, they still require a Parent Pay account for everything else - trips, clubs etc.** We will eventually be a completely cashless school, so there may be other things throughout the year that will need to be paid for via Parent Pay too. If you require a duplicate activation letter, please speak to the school office. Thank you to those Parents that have signed up already! We really appreciate your support.

**! Important Information !**

**PLEASE READ**

### **Nursery parents:**

If your child was born between 1st September 2017 to 31 August 2018, you need to apply for a Reception place for September 2022. Online applications will go live on **Monday 13th September**. Please visit: [www.sandwell.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

**The closing date for applications is Saturday 15th January.**

### **New Year 6 parents:**

You need to apply for a secondary (Year 7) school place for your child for September 2022. To register, please visit: [www.sandwell.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

**The closing date for applications is 31st October.**



## Changes to Parents Day

Following a very disruptive couple of years due to the Covid Pandemic, we have made the decision to change the way we plan Parents Day, so that children are not missing out on any more of their education. Therefore we will **not** be closing school for a day to hold Parents Day. **All children are expected to be in school as normal.** Year groups will have an allocated day in which Parents can book an appointment slot to meet their child's teacher as follows:

<b>Monday 4th October -</b>	<b>Nursery, Reception and Year 2</b>
<b>Tuesday 5th October -</b>	<b>Year 1 and Year 3</b>
<b>Wednesday 6th October -</b>	<b>Year 4 and Year 5</b>
<b>Thursday 7th October -</b>	<b>Year 6</b>

Slots will be available until 6pm for any working parents. As it will be a normal school day, teachers will only be available on their particular day, therefore if you have siblings in different year groups, you will have to book slots on different days. We will share more details about how you can book your slot soon!

### GB Book Bags

Have you seen the official **George Betts Book Bags**? They are super smart and hard wearing, and are available to buy

from the school office for only **£5!**

Please speak to a member of the office team for more information.

Children will no longer be given a new plastic book bag at the start of every year. There will be a charge of £1 per bag if your child needs a new bag. Thank you.



On Friday 25th September, we will be holding a non-uniform day, and asking pupils for harvest donations. All unopened, non perishable (food that lasts a long time) items would be gratefully received! Some ideas of items you could donate are:

**Tinned Fruit, Rice Puddings, Custard, Sponge Puddings, Tea Bags, Coffee, Packs Of Long Grain Rice, Packs Of Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Tinned Soups, Biscuits, Tinned Meats, Tinned Meals, Spaghetti Hoops, Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Fish, UHT Milk, UHT Fruit Juice, Jam, Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Potatoes, Instant Mashed Potato, Cereals.**

All donations will be taken to a local food bank. Thank you for your support, as always!

### Covid-19 Key Updates

As always, we will follow the most recent government advice and keep you informed of any changes. With this in mind, we wanted to let you know the key updates since we were last here in July:

- Masks are not required on school site. However, if you feel safer and more comfortable wearing a mask, this is your choice.
- Children will no longer be in class bubbles.
- It is now up to **track and trace** to identify 'close contacts'. We **do not** need to close bubbles or notify parents of any positive cases in school.
- Children do not need to isolate if a member of their household tests positive unless they become symptomatic themselves. In this case, they will need to have a PCR test and, if negative, will return to school as normal without isolation.
- If a child becomes symptomatic in or out of school, they must have a PCR test and can return to school if the result is negative.
- If Covid cases rise in Sandwell, we may go into a 'local area lockdown'. More details will be shared if this happens.