



Friday 8th September 2017

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to all our new families, children and staff!

It has been a lovely settled start to a new school year with new children and families not only in reception but also across the school in different year groups. We welcome you all to the school community. The school is looking bright and cheerful with a brand new main entrance. It was only completed last week, so we are still waiting for the new furniture and carpet – hopefully it will be finally completed in the next 2 weeks.

In addition to all our fantastic reception children and new starters in other year groups, we warmly welcome Mrs Swan, who is working alongside Mr Ormiston as joint-class teachers in Little Owls class. Mrs Swan will be working on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. We also warmly welcome Mrs Gabbitas to the school admin team – please pop to the school office and meet her.

Please do not hesitate to come and see Mrs Dixey, Mr Ormiston or your child's class teacher if you need to have a chat about anything or just need some information

SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE: Macmillan Coffee Morning



The School Council, supported by PTFA members and Mrs Millward, will be hosting this year's Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 29th September from 9.45am – 11am in the school hall. ***It would be great to see you all there supporting this splendid annual event.*** One in three of us are likely to face cancer and the money we raise at the Coffee Morning will help us make sure no one has to face cancer alone. Thank you.

SUN AWARENESS – BE SUN SAFE

We are hoping that the sun will make an appearance again...Thank you to everyone who has ensured that their child is in school with a sun hat. It is part of their school uniform between March and October. We prefer children to have a bucket or legionnaires style hat as they offer the most protection to the head and neck. Please could you pop your child's name in all their school uniform as we already have "Found Property" with no names so we cannot return it to the appropriate child. Thank you.



e-schools email and texting service



Mrs East sent out a new permissions form for parents/carers to sign and return in July – we are still waiting for some to be returned so we can migrate to e-schools for their FREE email service. Please return these as a matter of urgency or request a new copy at the school office.

PTFA : SUPPORT NEEDED

Our school PTFA are an incredibly hardworking group of parents and friends of the school and they need your help. ALL parents and carers are automatically a member of the PTFA and the school would strongly





encourage you to get involved. We appreciate that many of you have jobs and busy family lives – the current committee are all hardworking folk leading busy lives too and they need people to help organise specific events throughout the year as they can't do everything. The children really benefit from the tremendous funds raised through such things as outdoor equipment and enrichment activities, but this can only continue with your support. We would love to see you at the meetings or volunteering your time for specific events. Please see the school calendar for dates of meetings or look out for reminder texts. Thank you.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITY!

As you are no doubt aware, we strive to provide the children in our care with a wide variety of extra-curricular offerings to grow them as people not just within, but outside of the classroom. As such, I am writing to you to detail the offerings we will be providing throughout this academic year.

Wrap Around Care

Through Sporting Bodies, we offer wrap around care 5 days a week from 7:30am – 9:00am and 3:30pm – 6:00pm.

Sporting Opportunities

We are keen to build on last year's sporting success and will therefore be offering the following:

Introduction to Sports - Monday and Friday lunchtimes – two, free, half hour sessions on each day (one for KS1 and one for KS2) with a different sporting focus for each term. KS1 sessions will cover dodgeball, multisports, orienteering, cricket, boccia and tennis, whilst KS2 sessions will cover dodgeball, mini hockey, orienteering, cricket, tri golf and tennis. This will be run by Progressive Sports

This Girl Can - Tuesday and Wednesday lunchtimes – two, free, half hour sessions on each day (one for KS1, one for Y3/4 and two for Y5/6) focussing on developing sporting skills and increasing uptake of competitive sports for girls. This will be run by Sporting Bodies.

Gymnastics - Monday afternoons – two, hour long sessions (KS1 3:30pm – 4:30pm and KS2 4:30pm – 5:30pm) working on gymnastic ability and towards the British Gymnastics Proficiency Awards. This will be run by Sporting Bodies.



Soccerstars – Tuesday 3:30pm – 4:30pm for KS1 and Thursday 3:30pm – 4:30pm for KS2 – Football based skills based drills and small sided games. This will be run by Soccerstars.

Various Sporting Clubs - Wednesday afternoons – two, hour long sessions (KS1 3:30pm – 4:30pm and KS2 4:30pm – 5:30pm) focussing on a different sport each term, throughout the year. KS1 sessions will cover dance, sports hall athletics, orienteering, multisports and tennis, whilst KS2 sessions will cover basketball, sports hall athletics, mini hockey, cricket, tri golf and tennis. This will be run by Progressive Sports

Karate – Friday 3:30pm – 4:30pm – We will be continuing with the popular karate club which has been running for a number of years. It will initially be offered to KS2 children, with the possibility of a KS1 offering dependent on numbers. This will be run by UK Karate Jutsu.





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Netball – Wednesday and Friday from 3:30pm – Miss Cox will be continuing to run her popular netball club, with training on Wednesdays and matches on Fridays. This will be a KS2 offering only.

Yoga – Tuesday lunchtimes – two, half hour sessions for KS2 focussing on relaxation techniques and the principles and practices of yoga for KS2. This will be run by Yogic Frog. *Monday lunchtime* – a session will be offered for KS1 children.

Non-Sporting Opportunities

French – Monday lunchtimes (Y5/6), Tuesday 3:30pm – 4:30pm (KS1) and Wednesday 3:30pm – 4:30pm (Y3/4) – We will be continuing our well-received French language offering as we have done in previous years. This will be run by La Jolie Ronde.

Imagineering – Monday 3:30pm – 4:30pm – Our after school club with a focus on engineering will be continuing, giving Y5/6 children the opportunity to build models and explore what it takes to become an engineer. This club will be run by Debbie Hendricksen.

Code Club – Tuesday 3:30pm – 4:30pm – Miss Marriott will be continuing her code club, looking at programming language and the skills needed to become a computer programmer. This club will be open to Y3/4 children.

Lego Club – Tuesday lunchtimes (KS1) and Friday lunchtimes (KS2) – Mrs Robinson will be giving the opportunity to make new friends and build lego models for free at the same time, throughout the year.

As you can see, we have tried to provide a balance of activities to interest as many children as possible throughout the year. Please take the time to discuss the contents of this letter with your child and keep your eyes peeled for further information on all of the above, as letters will be sent out in due course. *Thank you – Mr Ormiston*



NEW HOMEWORK LEAFLET

The new leaflets have gone out this week and can also be found on the school web site along with the new Class Newsletters (Letters home tab). We hope this clarifies our expectations for homework and also includes the popular homework task that some children and families choose to do in addition to our set homework. Please speak to your child's class teacher should there be any further information of guidance needed. Thank you for your continued support.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTS - GUIDANCE

The Department for Education expects schools and local authorities to promote good attendance and reduce absences, including persistent absence. This is because we know that missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind. Children with poor attendance tend to achieve less in both primary and secondary schools. It is also important to remember that by taking your child out of school during term time you may be giving him/her an unspoken message that school is not important.

In September 2013 the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 came into force. These regulations made it clear that Headteachers should not grant approval for any leave of absence during term time including holidays, unless there was exceptional circumstances. These regulations also state that holidays cannot be authorised retrospectively. Any requests should be on





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the official school leave of absence request form and handed in to the school office **prior to any holiday/leave arrangements being made.**

Parents/carers may be issued with a Penalty Notice should any leave be taken which is not authorised. If unpaid this could lead to prosecution under section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996.

On 6 April 2017 the Supreme Court appeal, in relation to the Platt v Isle of Wight case, determined that under section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996 attending school 'regularly' means:

"in accordance with the rules prescribed by the school"

From 1 September 2017 the local authority will consider the issue of a penalty notice for any period of holiday absence which has not been authorised by the headteacher **regardless of a child's wider school attendance.**

Please see Mrs Dixey to discuss any requests for leave well in advance of the dates requested and ensure that all information is provided with any application as lack of information can cause delays in the Headteacher responding once the form is received. Thank you for your continued cooperation.



ATTENDANCE AND LATENESS MONITORING.

School starts at 8.55am. If your child arrives at school after this time, they will need to be signed in at the school office, so come straight to the main entrance. Your child will then be registered as late to school. If your child is unaccompanied, then the school office will text you to let you know your child was late as you may have sent them off

on time! A reason is requested and recorded. Lateness is monitored closely and meetings arranged to discuss continued lateness as required.

Mrs Dixey monitors attendance at least half termly. Good attendance is 96% and above. If your child's attendance becomes cause for concern then you will be notified by Mrs Dixey via text or letter, sometimes requesting that you make an appointment to see her. Please do so on receipt of the text/letter. Mrs Dixey will work with you to improve your child's attendance and keep informed of any medical issues affecting their attendance. Appointments should be arranged out of school hours wherever possible please. If your child is ill, please inform the school office by 9.30am and send a note to the class teacher on their return – this saves the school office having to chase this up. Thank you for your continued support.

LETTERS REMINDER

We have been very pleased with the year on year increase in parents /carers who have opted for email communication. This saves the school a huge photocopying bill, but we are having to reduce this even further (Newsletter 7 2016-17). We have previously provided hard copies for non-email families and put all letters on the school web site. **We would like to be able to be "paperless" by October half term and we would encourage all families to sign up for the email service as a matter of urgency.** We are



**Letters to
Parents**



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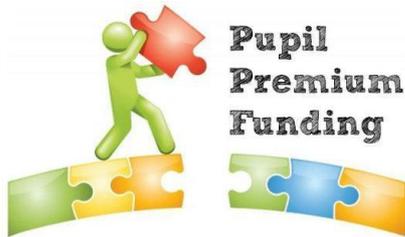
providing hard copies for the time being in this transition period, but if your child loses a letter, please refer to the school web site as the school office will no longer be providing an additional copy as this is a further cost to the school.

Letters that are emailed with a slip to return – we ask as always that you print out the slip or we are more than happy for you to provide the info request on a piece of paper and return to your child’s class teacher in the normal way or email to enquiries@etwall.derbyshire.sch.uk eg this may just be a slip to join a club. Thank you in advance.

IS YOUR CHILD ENTITLED TO PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING?

Your School Needs You!

As you may be aware, the issue of education funding has been in the news a lot recently, with schools facing reduced budgets alongside increased costs. At Etwall we are no different and a number of difficult decisions have had to be made regarding expenditure for 2017-18. The situation is not expected to improve in the foreseeable future, as the government seeks to reduce costs still further.



Funding Streams

One way that schools such as ours look to support pupils learning is through Pupil Premium funding, which allowed us to provide additional support to pupils in a variety of ways throughout 2016-17, as detailed below:

Area	Expenditure
Enrichment activities	£2,100
In class Teaching Assistant support for Pupil Premium	£28,234
Funding for inclusion	£2,455
Targeted interventions for pupils with additional needs	£5,491

As you can see, the bulk of our funding goes to provide specific support for Pupil Premium children through teaching assistants and dedicated intervention staff and, as such, is a key source of funding for the school.

Further Reductions

In April 2017, we lost £10,560 of our funding, reducing our ability to fund TA support and our overall Pupil Premium budget by almost 30%.

How Can I Help?

People often see the Pupil Premium as ‘Free School Meals’ when, as we have shown, the reality is much more than that. By signing up for Pupil Premium funding, you will have a direct impact on improving the education of both your child and those across the school for the next 6 years.

What Do I Get In Return?

Your child will receive:

- Additional support in the form of a Teaching Assistant in morning lessons on a daily basis
- Targeted support in one-to-one or small group sessions for your child, whatever their academic ability, provided by a dedicated Pupil Premium teacher





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- Specific 'pre-learning' sessions from class teachers as appropriate
- Fully funded enrichment day visits
- Discounted wrap around care (breakfast and after school club)
- Fully funded extra-curricular activities such as sports, Imagineering and language clubs
- Fully funded music lessons should they wish to learn how to play a musical instrument
- Subsidies for residential visits
- Provision of free books relating to the interests of each child
- Contributions towards school uniform costs
- Free milk
- Free nutritious school meals on a daily basis

Am I Eligible?

You are eligible for Pupil Premium funding if you receive any of the following:

- Income support
- Income-based jobseekers' allowance
- Income-related employment and support allowance
- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of state pension credit
- Child tax credit, provided that you are not also entitled to working tax credit and have an annual gross income of £16,190 or less
- Universal credit

You are also eligible if your child:

- Defined in the Children Act 1989 as one who is in the care of, or provided with accommodation by, an English local authority
- Children who have ceased to be looked after by a local authority in England and Wales because of adoption, a special guardianship order, a child arrangements order or a residence order
- Has a parent who is in the armed forces

How Do I Apply?

If you think you may be eligible for Pupil Premium funding, please contact the school office. We will happily discuss this with you and even fill the forms in on your behalf.

Please help us to help your child and their fellow pupils.



Dates: please put up somewhere at home or in your diary.

PLEASE REFER TO THE SCHOOL WEB SITE CALENDAR – for key dates for 2017-18

INSET Days for 2017-18 : The following days have been set for 2017-18. Children **will not** be in school on these further 4 days.

Friday November 3rd 2017, Tuesday 2nd January 2018, Friday 16th 2018 and Tuesday 10th July 2018



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A calendar of term dates and INSET dates has been emailed to you and is also on the school web site. A summary is included at the end of the newsletter for your reference.

Any changes in dates will be advertised well in advance and a text sent out. Assembly and Showcase dates will be in the next newsletter.

Please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher, Miss Dixey or Mr Ormiston should you have any concerns or questions. Thank you.

Miss Dixey and Mr Ormiston

Headteacher and Co-Headteacher/Deputy Headteacher

Dates for 2017-18 for parents and carers

Term	School dates	Enrichment visits / visitors / days	Governor dates
Aut 1	20/9 PTFA committee mtg 6.30pm @ Spread Eagle 28/9 KS1/EYFS Phonics workshop for parents 3/4/5.9 Phonic demos 12/10 Individual Photos am 16/10 3.45-6.30pm Parent Consultations 19/10 3.45-6.30pm Parent Consultations 16-20/10 Oct Travel Smart Week 2017	11/9 whole sch assembly Rev Fiona 20/9 Derbyshire Day 29/9 Macmillan Coffee 9.45-11am School Council 5/10 Harvest Festival 10am Rev. Fiona for chn only 12/10 PTFA Film Night KS1 supervise 20/10 NEW PTFA dress down Recycle Day	12/9 Governor AGM 5.15pm 3/10 Gov T & L Committee
Aut 2	3/11 INSET Day 9/11 New Parent Open afternoon 2-3pm 17/11 SCH COUNCIL CHN IN NEED 6/12 KS1 Nativity 2.45pm to parents 7/12 2.45pm KS1 Nativity to parents 14/12 Christmas Lunch day 15/12 Y56 party pm 18/12 Y34 party pm 19/12 EYFS/KS1 party pm	1/11 PFTA Meeting 6.30pm 3/11 PTFA Fireworks 6/11 Rev Fiona assembly 10.15 6/11 Guru Nanak afternoon 10/11 KS1 Space Centre visit 13-17/11 Anti-Bullying Week 2017 20/11 start of switch off Fortnight 29/11 PTFA Winter Disco's 7/12 KS2 Peter Pan Derby Theatre 13/12 KS2 Christmas Concert@ St.Helens 2/6pm 14/12 EYFS Nativity for parents 2.45pm	7/11 Gov Resources Committee 5.15pm 21/11 FGB Governor mtg 5.15pm





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Term	School dates	Enrichment visits / visitors / days	Governor dates
Spr 3	<p>2/1 INSET Closure day 5/2 PTFA Film Night TBC 15/2 NEW PTFA dress down Recycle Day 16/2 INSET DAY</p>	<p>2-9/1 Big School Bird Watch 5/2 Safer Internet Week 2018 (6/2 SID) TBC Zoolab KS1</p>	<p>23/1 Gov Resources mtg 5.15pm 13/2/Govs T&L mtg 5.15pm</p>
Spr 4	<p>16/3 Sch Council Chocolate Bingo TBC 19/3 3.45-6.30pm Parent Consultations 20/3 KS1 Easter @ St Helens 9.30am 21/3 KS2 Easter @ St Helens 9.30am 22/3 3.45-6.30pm Parent Consultations TBC Languages Day</p>	<p>26/2 for week – World Book Week 5/3 Waste Week 7/3 World Book Day 19/3 Autism Awareness Week TBC KS2 Water Mill Visit TBC KS1 Farm Visit 13/3 KS1 Open Centre Visit</p>	<p>6/3 Govs FGB mtg 5.15pm</p>
Sum 5	<p>19/20.5 Well dressing weekend 25/5 NEW PTFA dress down Recycle Day</p>	<p>9/4 Gardening Week 25/4 PTFA meeting 30/4 Y6 Bikeability week 3/5 PACES day TBC Local History – walk round village 20+21/6 KS2 to Open Centre TBC KS1 Crich Tramway Museum</p>	<p>1/5 Gov FGB Budget/Annex 1 + Resources mtg 5.15pm</p>
Sum 6	<p>7/6 PTFA Summer Disco's 15/6 Sports morning + picnic 22/6 Reserve Sports morning + picnic 27/6 PTFA meeting TBC 3 /4.7 Changeover Days 6/7 PTFA Summer Fair 10/7 INSET curriculum day 13/7 School reports out today 15/7 PFTA Music Festival 16/7 Open Evening for parents 3.45-5.30pm</p>	<p>21/6 World Music Day TBC Y6 science enrichment at JPS TBC KS1 Visit from Rev Andy</p>	<p>19/6 Govs FGB mtg 5.15pm 17/7 T&L FGM Pupil progress mtg 5.15pm</p>

