



office@brampton.cambs.sch.uk

www.brampton.cambs.sch.uk

Headteacher's notes...

Welcome back - I hope that you all had a good Christmas. It has been good to see the children back in school and they seem to have returned ready for the term ahead. As always there is much to look forward to and a list of dates is included at the end of this letter. Class Letters have been sent home today with further information and details about some of the other events will be sent home nearer the time.

We look forward to continuing to work closely with you and have welcomed a number of new children and their families to the school this week. We have sent home today a list of general reminders which we hope you will find useful. Please take note of them and 'help us to help you'.

Music News

Music clubs will start back on the following dates:

Choir: Thursday 10th January 8:30am

Orchestra: Friday 18th January 8:15am

Handchimes: Wednesday lunchtimes from Wednesday 16th January

String Group: Thursday lunchtimes from Thursday 31st January

Please also note the following dates for this term:

There will be no choir on: Thursday 28th February; Thursday 14th March

There will be no orchestra on: Friday 15th February; Orchestra will not run during Spring Term 2 but will begin again in the Summer Term.



Parent Drop In

Our Family Worker is holding another 'drop in' for parents on **Wednesday 16th January, 9.00 – 10.30am**. If you would prefer a 1:1 appointment then please contact Kayleigh on 07741 830017 or email Kayleigh.Fry@cambridgeshire.gov.uk to book these. The Family Worker is available to work and support parents with any issues at home, including sibling rivalry, school refusal and general behaviour.

Attendance

We all know that regular attendance at school is crucial if children are to achieve well and make the progress that we all want them to. Your support is much appreciated and because of this we currently have an attendance rate of 96% which is positive. However, there remains a number of children whose attendance has fallen below the 95% threshold or who have unauthorised absences.

We are required to implement Cambridgeshire County Council's policy on Leave of Absence. The 2013 School Attendance Penalty Notice amendment means that Head teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Authorised absences include sickness, medical appointments and other approved activities. All schools expect attendance to be 100%, unless there are exceptional or unavoidable reasons for absence, which would then be authorised. We are now required to request that the Local Authority issues Fixed Penalty Notices when there is a period of unauthorised absence and a number were issued last term.

Attendance is monitored regularly by senior staff as well as by Governors and our Educational Welfare Officer. As part of this we have to know where every child is every day so please help us by contacting the school office by either telephone (01480 375063) or email (office@brampton.cambs.sch.uk) before 9.15am on **each day** of your child's absence. It is also essential that we have up to date contact details as well. Thank you.

After School Clubs

Yr6 Tag Rugby starts on Thursday 17th January 2019

Yr5 and 6 Boys' Football starts with Year 5 on Tuesday 15th January, with Year 6 starting on Tuesday 22nd January.

Permission slips for these two clubs have been sent out via email today and your child will need to return a signed slip to Mr Whitehouse even if permission was given last term.

Free School Meals & Pupil Premium – are you eligible?

On 17th January it will be a school census day. The number of pupils on roll and information collected are used to calculate the school's funding for next year. The money the school receives includes a basic amount per pupil, but in addition we can receive additional funding called pupil premium. **Please can you consider if your family is eligible to apply for the pupil premium due to free school meal eligibility.** Please be aware that this is not the same as the universal infant free school meals provided for all children in reception and key stage 1 classes. This funding makes a significant impact on our ability to ensure the best educational support is given to all pupils. (We also receive a smaller amount in respect of children from service families, we collect eligibility information for this funding on our admissions forms.)

Pupil premium (related to free school meals) is paid to the school in respect of children whose parents are in receipt of any of these benefits:

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- If you are supported under Part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit but no element of Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400 (as from 1st April 2018)
- Guarantee element of state pension credit
- Working Tax Credit during the four week period immediately after your employment finishes or after you start to work less hours per week.

Even if your child does not want to eat school meals (though these are worth over £400 per year), or already receives universal infant free school meals, ***if you are eligible to apply for free school meals it is well worth doing so as there are many benefits for your child.*** School Governors have approved a number of ways in which the school will help children eligible for statutory free school meals. The school will offer financial assistance for educational visits (including residential trips), individual music tuition, clubs and a sum towards school uniform.

Even if your circumstances change and you no longer qualify, the school will continue to receive pupil premium payments, and you will continue to qualify for support, for some years.

If you think you might be eligible, please complete an application as soon as possible! We have paper forms in the area outside the school office, which you can complete and hand to the office to be scanned and sent in, or you can apply online at <http://www4.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals>.

Year 3 Swimming

Year 3 start their swimming lessons on **Friday 18th January**. Please remind your child to bring in their swimming kit and a towel.

PTA News

Hello everyone, our next event is the Disco on **Thursday 17th January**. Brambles and Reception are from **5–5.50pm**, Years 1-3 is from **6-6.50pm** and Years 4-6 is from **7-7.50pm**. Cost is £2 to include a drink and biscuit. There will be a raffle for the children as well as snacks to buy and face glitter. We need parent help so if you are able, please sign up using the following link:

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/30e0b4cada82aa2fb6-disco>

We are also still looking for a new treasurer, please email for more information at bramptonpta@outlook.com or speak to one of us on the playground.

See you all at the disco!

PTA team

Community News

Fostering Help Needed

We have been asked to pass on the following message:

Have you ever considered becoming a foster carer? If so, now is a great time to start your fostering journey as Cambridgeshire County Council's fostering service is currently recruiting carers to a wide range of rewarding roles. We are particularly keen to hear from anyone who could provide a home to a teenager in care and offer them the help and support they need. To find out more about how you can make a difference, call today on 0800 052 0078 or visit www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/fostering.

What's On Next Week:

Monday 14 th January	Art Club Y1,2,3,4 Football Club
Tuesday 15 th January	Amy's Acro Yr 5 Boys' Football Club
Wednesday 16 th January	Family Worker Drop-In 9.00 – 10.30am Handchimes (lunchtime) Y1,2,3,4 Multiskills Club
Thursday 17 th January	Choir PTA Disco Y3,4,5,6 Dodgeball
Friday 18 th January	Y3 swimming Orchestra



Dates Please keep an eye on the dates each week in case of any changes.

Spring Term 2019			
January	11 th	Class Letters Home	
	17 th	PTA Disco	
	18 th	Year 3 swimming starts	
	23 rd	Middle Beech Assembly	9.15am
	24 th	Young Voices	
	30 th	Middle Cedar Assembly	9.15am
February	1 st	PTA meeting Cake Friday	2.00pm
	5 th	'Open Classrooms'	3.30 – 5.00pm
	6 th	Upper Elm Assembly	9.15am
	7 th	Governing Body meeting	
	13 th	Parent Consultations	3.30 – 7.00pm
	14 th	Parent Consultations	3.30 – 6.00pm
	18 th – 22 nd	Half term	
	26 th	Vision Screening for Reception	
March	4 th	Year 5 Bikeability Week Reception and Year 6 Heights and Weights	
	6 th	Middle Willow Assembly	9.15am
	8 th	PTA meeting PTA Quiz Night	
	13 th	Lower Beech Assembly	9.15am
	20 th	Middle Maple Assembly	9.15am
	21 st	Grafham meeting for Year 4	5.00pm
	25 th	Middle Phase (Y3/Y4) Spring Concert	Time to be confirmed
	26 th	Middle Phase (Y3/Y4) Spring Concert	Time to be confirmed
	27 th	Lower Willow Assembly Middle Phase (Y3/Y4) Spring Concert	9.15am Time to be confirmed
	28 th	Governing Body meeting	
April	3 rd	Lower Maple Assembly	9.15am
	5 th	Last day of term	
Summer term			
Tuesday 23 rd April		Professional Day	
Monday 6 th May		May Day Bank Holiday	
27 th May – 31 st May		Half term	
Monday 3 rd June		Professional Day	
Wednesday 24 th July		Last day of term	