



THE BATT C.E. SCHOOL



## THE BATT CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Corn Street, Witney, Oxon, OX28 6DY

Headteacher: C.M.Payne BMus (hons), Cert Ed

Telephone: 01993 702392  
Office.3605@batt.oxon.sch.uk  
www.thebattschool.org.uk

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No. 03

Dear Parents/Carers

### Harvest Festival

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions, we are unable to hold our annual Harvest Festival at St. Mary's Church this year. We will still be celebrating Harvest, albeit in a shortened form, during a Collective Worship via Zoom next Thursday morning.

We traditionally ask the children to bring in food gifts which we then pass on to others. We would still like to receive these gifts of food next Thursday morning please, but please ensure the children only bring in tins or packets. We will deliver your donations to both the Witney Food Bank and the charity 'Besom'. Tables will be placed near the gate for families to place their donations of food. Thank you.

### Staffing News

Yesterday was Mrs Rachel Hannan's last day at The Batt. She worked here as a Teaching Assistant for six years and will now be moving on to a new role with Thames Valley Police. I would like to wish her all the very best in her new job and for the future, and thank her for all she has done to support the children at The Batt.

### Lunch Next Thursday

You will have seen from the recent ParentMail that we will be offering a hot lunch of pizza and chips next Thursday. This will give us an opportunity to see how providing hot lunches will work with our current lunchtime arrangements. We also want to encourage as many children as possible, particularly the Infants who are all entitled to free lunches, to have a school lunch on that day as Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October is Census Day in schools, and we will receive funding relative to the amount of school meals provided on this day. You should be able to pay for your school lunches via ParentPay, but as the deadline has passed for ordering, you will have to contact the school office for next week.

### Parents' Evenings

We are still planning to hold our parents' evenings during the week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> October, however because of coronavirus restrictions, these will have to be held via Zoom or Microsoft Teams, or by telephone. I will send out more information as to how we will be organising this in the next week or so.

### Arrival and Departure Times

Thank you again for your understanding and co-operation with our staggered start and finish times. It is definitely working well. I have had a request however from our neighbour adjacent to the driveway – please avoid sitting on or leaning against the windowsill on the property to the left just before the orange dots. The windowsill and windowpanes are fragile as it is an old building. Thank you.



### INSET Day Next Week

Next Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October, is an INSET Day and the school will therefore be closed to the children.

### Breakfast and After School Clubs

Thank you to those parents who responded to our ParentMail regarding Breakfast club and After School Club. We are working hard to enable these to start soon, but we have to ensure that when we do so, it will be as safe as we can make it for the children. We have worked hard so far to limit the possibility of Bubbles mixing, as recommended by the government, and we are therefore working out ways in which this non-mixing of Bubbles can continue, or at least be kept to a minimum both before and after school. I would like to thank you for your patience but am sure you understand the importance of getting this right for everyone's well-being.

Many thanks for all your support during these most unusual times.

Yours sincerely

Chris Payne  
Headteacher

