



Newsletter – September 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to school. It is wonderful to see the children looking so smart in their school uniforms and ready for the challenges a new school year brings. The staff and I are looking forward to working with you and your children to help them progress over the year so that they achieve the very best they can.

This is a particularly exciting time for both schools as we start our journey together as the Acorn Federation. Over this next year we will continue to strengthen the links we made last year in several ways. For the children each half term we have a joint day planned and they will take part in the same sports events at QEGS, sometimes in joint teams. The staff will continue to develop long term planning together so that the schools can share resources and trips; staff will also continue to share good practice across both schools. This year some of the improvements on the school improvement plan are shared across both schools so that staff can work together to develop these.

Dates for this academic year

Please look out this week for the new school calendars which will be sent out to all families (either by email or in paper form). This document will be available on both school websites and the information is included on the online calendar on each website. The calendar includes dates for school holidays and INSET days.

Updating Forms

We will also be sending out forms for parents to ensure we have up-to-date information about your children. Please return these to school as soon as you can. These will include medical forms, collection forms, permission forms and home-school agreements. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in completing these promptly.

School Meals

The price of school dinners has now increased. The new price for a child's meal is - £2.10, so a week will now cost £10.50. The price of an adult meal has increased to £2.88.

The cost of school meals for the first half term is - £79.80.

School meals must be paid for in advance, you may either pay weekly, monthly or for the whole half term. **Money must be sent in a clearly labelled envelope, thank you.**

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils are still receiving universal free school meals so there is no need to pay.

Free School Meals

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit

- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

What does Free School Meals (FSM) mean?

While you remain entitled to receive FSM your child will receive a school meal for free. The funding also gives the pupils Pupil Premium funding. This is £1300 each year which is used by the school to support your child's learning, this can mean 1-to-1 or small group support for interventions, support to pay for school trips, help funding clubs (e.g. after school club).

What do I need to do?

If you think you may be eligible to receive FSM please let Mrs Lovett, Mrs Murby or Mrs Watts have your full name, date of birth and national insurance number. They can then submit the information to Derbyshire County Council. Any applications will be dealt with in confidence.

Attendance

Attending school regularly is key to your child doing well at school and will set them up with good routines for later life and the working world.

95% Attendance - This is the equivalent of having half a day off every other week.

90% Attendance – This is the equivalent of having half a day off every week.

80% Attendance – This is the equivalent of having a day off every week.

When children are unwell they should not attend school. However, I would ask you to consider if they are too ill to attend school, or if they will perk up once they see their friends. Please remember and adhere to the 48 hour rule. Children must not be in school for 48 hours after their last incident of sickness or diarrhoea.

As part of our policy on attendance, if your child's attendance falls below 95% we will inform you by letter.

Absence Procedures

If your child is too unwell to attend school, please contact school by phone by 9.10am and inform us of the reason for their absence and when you expect them to return to school. Thank you.

Medical Conditions

Please inform school if your child has a medical condition and ensure the appropriate medication is in school (e.g. inhalers for asthma). If your child already has medication in school, please ensure it is in date. This information will also need recording on the medical form, which will be sent out this week.

School Policy Documents

Both school websites contain many of our policy documents for you to access. If you require a paper copy or can not find the policy you are looking for please contact the school office.

Joint Events – September 2018

QEGS: Cross Country Y1-6 (17/09/18): QEGS are hosting their annual cross country event today from 4pm. Please look out for a separate letter with more information.

QEGS: Mixed Mini Soccer Y5/6 (24/09/18): QEGS are hosting a mini soccer event today from 4pm. Please look out for a separate letter with more information.

QEGS Open Evening (25/09/18): This is an opportunity for families with children in Years 5 and 6 to visit QEGS and look round their facilities.

QEGS: Hockey Festival Y5/6 (27/09/18): QEGS are hosting a hockey festival today from 4pm. Please look out for a separate letter with more information.

Mrs Bosley's Plan

This is the plan for the remainder of this half term and the first week back in September. Please remember that if you would like to speak to me when I am at the other school, you can contact a member of staff to see if they are able to help or ask staff to contact me so that I can contact you.

w/b	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
03/09/18	INSET	INSET	am – MMPS pm – LLPS	MMPS	LLPS
10/09/18	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS
17/09/18	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS
24/09/18	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS
01/10/18	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS
08/10/18	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS
15/10/18	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS	Not in school	LLPS
22/10/18	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS	MMPS	LLPS

Kind regards

Teresa Bosley
Head Teacher



Marston Montgomery Primary School

Welcome

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new children and their families to our school. We are all looking forward to getting to know you.

Early Closure for ASC

On Tuesday 2nd October ASC will close at 4:30pm promptly to allow staff to attend safeguarding training at Ashbourne Primary. We apologise any inconvenience this may cause but are sure you will understand that this is vital training for staff.

Marston Montgomery – Events in September

Swimming

The Meadow Class will swim on a Friday afternoon this term. The children will need to bring a swimming costume / trunks and towel. They may bring goggles if they wish.

The dates for swimming are –24/10/18, 01/10/18, 08/10/18, 15/10/18, 22/10/18, 12/11/18, 19/11/18, 26/11/18, 03/12/18, 10/12/18. We need volunteers to go with us, if you are able to help please speak to Mrs Beloe.

Forest School

We are delighted to continue to offer Forest School sessions. Each class will take it in turns to take part on a Wednesday afternoon. When the children are taking part in Forest Schools they will need to bring suitable clothing, e.g. wellington boots, rain coats, gloves, hats etc. They will take part in Forest School whatever the weather so MUST be appropriately dressed!

Y5/6 – 12/09/18, 03/10/18,

Y3/4 – 19/09/18, 10/10/18,

Garden Class – 26/09/18, 24/10/18

Celebration Assembly

All parents and carers are warmly invited to join us on a Friday morning (9:00am to 9:15am) for our celebration assembly where we will celebrate the children's work from the week.

Dates – 14/09/18, 21/09/18, 05/10/18, 12/10/18, 19/10/18, 26/10/18

Marston Tots

Parents, carers, grandparents with pre-school children are welcome to join us for our Tots session on a Friday morning (9:15am – 11:15am).

Dates - 14/09/18, 21/09/18, 28/09/18, 05/10/18, 12/10/18, 19/10/18, 26/10/18

Harvest Festival (28/09/18): Please join us at 1:30pm in church as we celebrate harvest. Donations of non-perishable food items will be warmly welcomed.

Macmillan Coffee (28/09/18): Following our harvest celebration we will return to school for our Macmillan Coffee event. Further details to follow.