



## BYERS GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 06.09.2024

Welcome back! I hope you had a relaxing summer and are ready for the start of the new academic year. It was lovely to see all of the big smiles as the children arrived at school for their first day. May I take this opportunity to welcome all of our new pupils and their families to the community. Your children are at the heart of what we do and I truly look forward to another fantastic year of teaching and learning.

### Morning Routine

The school gate will open from 8:45 for a staggered start to the day. On arrival, the children will have some time on the playground until the bell rings at 8:55 for registration. Parents will be asked to drop their children at the gate where myself or Mrs King will be standing. Miss Jackson and Miss Dent will also be on the playground to welcome the children and supervise before school. The gate will be locked at 8:55 so if you are late, please access school via the front door.

We will still operate our open-door policy so if you wish to speak to a class teacher about any concerns, please ask Mrs Blenkiron if they are available. The morning can be a busy time, as teachers are preparing lessons, so if you require a longer meeting, or more in-depth discussion, don't hesitate to ask and an appointment can be arranged.

### Attendance Update

In August 2024, new legislation was passed regarding school attendance. I have attached a leaflet with some very important information about unauthorised absence. Please note that holidays are very rarely granted as authorised absence and fines will be issued if there are 5 days of unauthorised absence in a ten-week period. If you have any questions about this, please contact myself or Mrs Blenkiron.

### Friends of School

From discos to school fairs, all fund raising really supports our children as school fund is used to subsidise trips and visits and equipment for school. I always appreciate the time our volunteers can give to help out at events. I would like to arrange a planning meeting on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September at 3:30, where anyone who is interested in helping or anyone with ideas for events for school are welcome to come along. We will hopefully finish the meeting with a calendar of events for the year ahead so everyone knows, with plenty of notice, what is coming up.

### Open Mornings

In September, we will be operating open mornings and afternoons every Friday for potential new starters. If you know anyone of school age, due to start school in September 2025, please spread the word. The dates are as follows:

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September 9:30 – 11:30

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September 9:30 – 11:30

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 1:30 – 4:30

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 1:30 – 4:30

We have flyers in school if you go to any groups or classes where they could be distributed. Or if you could share the leaflet on Social Media, please get in touch and I will send you a digital copy.

### Wrap Around Care

Our wrap around care has been a success and we will continue to operate Breakfast Club from 8am for £2 per session, with a sibling discount. Sunset Club will run after school from 3:25 – 5:25 and will be charged at £5 per hour. If you require longer hours than this, please let us know and we can discuss options. We have reviewed the cost of the provision and to make it viable, we will need to keep this at this cost for now. I am sourcing additional opportunities to enhance the After-School offer and will let you know next week which clubs we will operate each night.

### Track-It Lights

We have launched a new app in school called Track-it lights. This is a system to record positive behavior and cumulate house points. The children can receive positive points by using good manners, being kind, completing good quality work, using neat handwriting etc. Track-it lights can also record low level poor behavior such as not completing tasks and talking during learning time and more concerning behaviours such as aggression and unkindness. There is an accompanying app for parents. Details of this will be sent out next week.

## PE Days

Please can children come to school on their PE day dressed in PE kit. PE kit comprises of navy joggers and jumper /hoody and a white t-shirt. Please can all hair be tied back and all jewellery be removed. Please wear plain or school branded items only.

| Monday  | Tuesday | Wednesday     | Thursday | Friday                   |
|---------|---------|---------------|----------|--------------------------|
| Class 3 |         | Class 1 and 2 | Class 4  | Class 1 and 2<br>Class 3 |

Class 4 will be swimming this term. We have not yet been allocated our time slot so we will let you know as soon as possible when this is confirmed.

## Daisy Chain Workshop

On Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October, Daisy Chain are carrying out a workshop in school from 1:30 – 3:25. This is for any parents/carers who feel their child is autistic, has ADHD or sensory differences. Your child does not need to be diagnosed to attend the workshop. The session will focus on strategies and ideas to help support your child when they're overwhelmed and give you an opportunity to talk to other parents who may be going through a similar thing.

## Diary Dates

Please see important dates coming up this term

| Date/time  | Event   |
|--|---|
| 13 <sup>th</sup> September<br>3:30 – 4:00  | Friends of School meeting   |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> October<br>8:55 – 10:30  | Harvest Coffee morning 8:55 – 9:30 for parents/carers in the school hall. Raffle tickets and refreshments will be available to purchase followed by:<br>Autumn and Harvest crafts in classes – 9:30 – 10:30 |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> October<br>1:30 – 3:25  | Daisy Chain Workshop for parents and carers<br>Autistic Overwhelm, meltdown and shut down   |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> October   | School closes for half term   |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> November   | School re-opens for Autumn 2  |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> December   | Christmas Fair 3:25 – 4:25  |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> December  | 1:15 – Class 1 and 2 Nativity Play<br>2:00 – Class 3 and 4 Christmas Sing Along   |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> December  | 9:10 – Class 1 and 2 Nativity Play<br>10:00 – Class 3 and 4 Christmas Sing Along  |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> December  | Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day  |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> December  | Christmas party – come to school in non-uniform /party clothes  |
| <b>More dates will be updated in this table as other opportunities arise – please keep checking.</b> |   |

Thank you for reading our newsletter. Please get in touch if I can help you in any way.

Kind regards,

*G.E.Dodds*

Headteacher