



Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome back to the start of the new academic year and a special welcome to Samuel (Y6) and our new Reception Children and their families. They are all settling in really well.

Dates for Diaries

Next Week's Dates:

Monday 6th September-Y4 Bowles Teambuilding in school am and Y6 PM.

Thursday 9th September-8.50-9.15 Y3 and Y4 meet the teacher. In the dome/hall TBC.

Thursday 9th September-2.50-3.15pm Y6 Meet the teacher in the dome.

Friday 10th September-8.50-9.15am Y1 Meet the teacher in the dome.

Future dates

Monday 13th September: First week of clubs

Monday 13th September-Y3/4 Swimming Lessons begin at Biggin Hill Pool.

Tuesday 14th September-2.50-3.15pm Y2 Meet the teacher in the dome.

Wednesday 15th September-2.50-3.15pm Y5 Meet the teacher in the dome. **Date and time to be confirmed.**

Friday 17th September-8.50-9.15am YR Meet the teacher in the dome.

Friday 17th September: Jeans for Genes Day. £1 donation to charity in return for wearing jeans to school. **(Rest school uniform).**

Monday 11th October-Last Y3/4 swimming lesson.

Tuesday 12th October-9.30-10.30am Open Morning for prospective new children/parents.

Monday 18th October-Friday 29th October 2 week Half Term Holiday.

Sunday 31st October-Y6 Deadline to apply for a secondary school place

Wednesday 3rd November-6-7pm Open Evening for prospective new children/parents.

Thursday 18th November-9.30-10.30am. Open Morning for prospective new children/parents.

Awards

I am very proud to announce that Amelia (Y5) and Henry G (Y3) received an Aquinas Virtual Summer School Award for taking part in lessons and cracking the codes. Well done!

House Captains – Many congratulations to the following children who have been elected by their peers to become House Captains for the term:

Wilberforce: Joey (Y5), Vida (Y4), Bella (Y3), Maisie (Y2).

Crompton: Evan (Y5), Shivai (Y4), Alex (Y3), Amelie (Y2), Nieve (Y1)

Caesar: Amelia (Y5), Mason (Y4) Millie (Y3) Miles (Y2)

Darwin: Charley (Y5), Lolly (Y4), Sasha (Y3), Dolly (Y1)
Y6 House Captains will also be the Head Pupils. These will be elected next week.

House Captains assist with the playground equipment, lost property and are also PE monitors.

School Council Members

Y1-Rocco

Y2-Maisie

Y3-Charlie

Y4-Louis

Y5-Adi

School News

COVID

As per the government guidance we will be returning to 'normal' school life without bubbles and with the usual adhering to good hygiene of washing hands/hand gel good ventilation etc.

I'm sure you will appreciate, with the current infection rate we would be very grateful if parents entering the building would wear a face mask (unless exempt) and to hand sanitise.

If your child has a temperature, new persistent cough or lack of smell/taste please DO NOT send them to school. **They must have a PCR test.** If the result is negative then they can return to school. If however the result is positive then the 10 day isolation is required.

Children under 18 do not need to isolate if they are a close contact of someone in the household who has covid. Similarly, adults who are double- vaccinated do not need to isolate. However, we would ask that Lateral Flow Tests (LFT) are carried out daily for at least 5 days.

Absence Reminder

Please either phone or e-mail the school by **9am** if your child will be absent from school for any reason. If we are not provided with a reason, absences are marked as unauthorised which then goes on their record.

Breakfast Club

We currently have spaces available in our Breakfast Club. It operates from 7.30am with breakfast being served at 8am. The cost is £6 per child per session. If you would like to apply please complete and return the attached booking form.

After School Clubs

After School Club applications close on school gateway on Monday 6th September. There are still spaces available in Karate (Monday), Girls Football (Tuesday), Lego, The Pixel Gang, Y3/4 Football (Thursday) and Y5/6 Football (Friday).

At the moment Y1 and 2 Story Time and Acting (Monday) and Y1/2 Football (Wednesday) will not be viable to run unless the numbers increase. We will confirm next week.

School Budget

Once again, we are asking parents to kindly donate whiteboard pens, glue sticks and boxes of tissues to their child's class. Please do not name the items.

Thank you.

Marvellous Me App

Marvellous Me will be updated shortly. We will advise you when it is up and running.

Marvellous Me is free for parents. You will get exciting alerts if you use it on your smartphone or tablet.

Marvellous Me engages parents by telling them about their children's learning and success. It enriches family conversations about school and makes it easy for parents to help their children's education and say: 'Well done!'

Reception class and new children will be provided with their parent join codes. If you need reminding of your parent join code please ask the office.

Traffic

If you are lucky enough to live within walking distance of the school, PLEASE WALK!! It's the healthiest option for children and reinforces the message that we don't always have to park as close to the end destination as possible and it helps our environment.

If you do have to drive, please park away from the school preferably in Commonside Car Park or at Fishponds. If you have no option but to drive down Lakes Rd, please follow the unofficial one-way system in operation i.e. to drive down Lakes Road towards school and up Keston Avenue when leaving school. Please DO NOT stop in front of the school gates to drop off your child and NEVER park across a resident's drive or the bay to the front gates.

Please do not park and leave the engine running. This causes huge air pollution which affects all of us but especially little children who suffer from asthma.

Please be mindful of cars within the school car park and make sure children stick to the paths.

Y3/4 Swimming

A swimming lesson letter was sent out this week to Y3 and 4. Please ensure you complete and return the slip by Monday 6th September in order that your child can take part and so that Mr Hunnisett can plan the rota for drivers.

KS2 Choir

A letter has also gone out today regarding the KS2 Choir which will start on Friday 10th September and each Friday lunchtime. Please complete and return by 8th September if you would like your child to join the KS2 Choir and to take part in the Young Voices Concert at the O2 on 19th January 22.

BYMT Music Lessons

Would your child like to learn to play the flute/clarinet (Y4 upwards) or piano? BYMT music teachers can offer your child lessons in school. If you are interested please complete and return the attached application form.

Have a lovely weekend

Julia Evison