

9th September 2016

Dear Parents & Carers,

First of all, a huge welcome to you all, especially the new members of the Wylde Green family: children, parents and staff. All of the staff have all been very busy over the holidays preparing for the new academic year both in the classrooms and around school so that it looks fantastic.

I would like to inform you that unfortunately over the holidays I had an accident which has led to a shoulder injury; this means that I will not be at school for the next few weeks whilst I recuperate. During my absence Mr Hamilton-Martin will be overseeing the day to day running of the school.

I look forward to returning to work as soon as I am well enough to do so.

Improvements in and around school

Those of you who do the school run will have noticed some of our improvements that took place over the holiday:

- Our canteen and windows have been painted, I'm sure you'll agree this is a huge improvement.
- The two Reception classes have been redecorated and have brand new flooring. We have continued to address the Ofsted action relating to further improving the EYFS outdoor learning provision, by providing an outdoor sandpit and 'mud kitchen' for the EYFS children to use. I must thank Mr Arthur Weaver for his help in creating the 'mud kitchen' over the holidays- it will certainly get lots of use!

Safety to and from school.

All children from Reception to year 5 must be accompanied and collected from school by an adult - **not a school aged older brother or sister.**

Those parents that drive are encouraged to park at The Lanes shopping centre and walk the 2 minute journey to school. This will make it safer around school.

Please do not park on the zig zags or even drop off- this is highly dangerous and inconsiderate. Parents who are known to do so will have their car registration reported to the police. Please also refrain from blocking residents' drives. We thank you for your co-operation in this.

Mobile phones in school

We will be allowing our **year 6** children to bring their phones into school, **if they are walking to or from school without an adult.** This is so that the children (and their parents) feel safer walking without an adult. Phones will need to be switched off whilst the children are in school, please contact your child via the school office during this time. Children are responsible for their own phone. Please do not send your child with a phone otherwise.

The staff team

Strategic Team: Mrs O'Toole; Mr Hamilton- Martin; Mrs Kelly (AHT for Curriculum and Professional Development)

Senior Leadership Team: Mrs Hamilton-Martin Early Years Leader; Mrs Drinkwater Phase One Leader (yr 1 & 2); Mrs Evans' role as Phase Two leader (yr 3 & 4) is being covered during her maternity by Miss Coshan who is a teacher in year 3 ; Mrs Dobson is an additional teacher and is the Maths and Phase Three leader (yr 5 & 6).

Other Teachers: Reception: Mrs Colton & Miss Webster; Yr 1 Miss Shakespeare & Mrs Drinkwater; Yr 2: Miss C. Horne & Miss Cutler; Yr 3: Miss Coshan & Mr Boden; Yr 4: Miss O'Rorke & Miss Gray; Yr 5: Mr Fullard & Miss Jennings; Yr 6: Mrs Bains & Miss Paul. Mrs Evans and Mrs Perrins are currently on maternity leave. Mr Hamilton- Martin; Mrs Hamilton-Martin; Mrs Khanam; Mrs Wheeldon and Mr Evans will be taking extra groups and providing additional support as part of our commitment to accelerating the progress of our children across the school, as well as providing staff PPA and leadership cover so that where possible this is done internally by our staff.

Additional Teachers : Mrs Trattos and Mrs Sparkes

Teaching assistants: Mr Walmsley; Mrs Felletti; Mrs Ward; Mrs Howes; Mr Hopkins, Miss E Horne, Mr Westwood and Mrs Targett (who is currently on maternity leave).

Pastoral team: Mrs Swingler (Family support worker)

Office Staff: Senior Office Manager: Miss Sephton; Office Manager: Mrs Winfield; Admin Staff: Mrs Brown & Mrs Coutts.

Site team: Site Manager: Mr Moss; Cleaning staff: Miss McVicar, Ms Bishop & Mrs Palmer

Lunchtime staff: Senior Supervisor: Miss Collins; Mrs Tutt; Mrs Chager; Mrs Ghataora; Mrs Hunt; Mrs Dasgupta; Mrs Sen; Mrs Walton; Mrs Wilkie; Mr Westwood; Mr Sheward & Mrs Hipkin.

Reading Assistants: Mrs Jones; Miss Collins; Mrs Dasgupta; Mrs Swain and Mrs Tutt.

Super star assemblies

Infants assembly will now take place on **Thursday** mornings at 9.05am for year 1 & 2 (Reception children join in this celebration in the summer term when they start to attend assemblies). Junior Super star assemblies remain on **Friday mornings at 9.05am**. Over the year every child will be chosen, parents and carers will receive a text if their child has been chosen for the forthcoming week. We always leave it to individual parents if they want to tell their child or keep it a secret!

Appointments with staff

Members of the Strategic team as well as some other staff will be on the playground each morning to supervise and accept any messages for junior staff; alternatively parents can pass on messages via the office. Appointments to discuss any issues in more detail can be arranged via the school office.

Parent & carer consultation evenings

These will take place as follows:

Wednesday 12th October 4.00pm – 6.00pm – Reception classes

Tuesday 18th October 4.00pm – 6.30pm – Year 1 –6 classes

Wednesday 19th October 4.30pm – 7.00pm – Year 1 – 6 classes

Meet the teacher sessions

Once again we will be offering our **Meet the teacher** sessions for all parents. The purpose of these meetings is to involve parents and carers even more in their child's education and to inform them of the routines and expectations of the new year group. These sessions have been organised for parents to have the opportunity to come and meet their child's class teacher ahead of parents evening. This will be a short informal session where staff will notify parents and carers about their child's timetable, forthcoming events, homework, educational visits, as well as initiatives we have to accelerate the progress of all children, as well as information regarding the curriculum. These sessions are not an opportunity for parents to discuss individual children however staff will where possible, answer any general questions. Members of the Strategic Team will be present on the evenings too.

This session is for adults only, please can parents make their own childcare arrangements*.

***If parents have a problem with childcare arrangements please contact the school office.**

Tuesday 20th September:

Year 2 - 6.00pm

Year 4 – 6.30pm

Year 6 – 7.00pm

Wednesday 21st September
Year 1 – 6.00pm
Year 2 – 6.30pm
Year 3 – 7.00pm

Reception parents received a thorough induction within the summer term so we have not arranged a session for them. Therefore any additional information will be sent home via their child.

'How we can care for our World'

Each year we now celebrate a whole school project, last year we focused on our great city of Birmingham. This year our school project is 'How we can care for our world' which will involve teaching children about the environment, sustainability and global issues too. Year groups will be visiting a variety of places including the Botanical Gardens and Kingsbury Water Park to experience first-hand the importance of caring for our environment. We always welcome parent support for our projects, so if you feel you can offer us any of your personal experience of this topic please contact your child's class teacher.

Sweets and birthday treats

Please can we request that you do not send in sweets or cakes when it is your child's birthday. Not only is this unhealthy for children regarding dental hygiene, it also impacts upon home time in organising for this to be done. You may want to consider donating a book for the class reading area for all the children to enjoy as an alternative.

Residential trips for year 6

Boreatton Park- Shropshire.

Year 6 children are attending their residential trip on Friday 16th September for the weekend to Boreatton Park. My thanks to Mrs K Kelly who will be leading the trip and to Miss O'Rorke, Miss Bird, Mr Boden, Mr Ronan, Mrs Swingler and Miss Paul (who will arrive on Saturday 17th September) for accompanying the children on the trip. I know the children (and staff) will have an amazing time.

Yours sincerely,

Donna O'Toole
Head Teacher