



CAVERSHAM PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

START OF THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR 2024



Welcome back to the start of another school year. I hope that you all had an enjoyable summer break. As usual, the holiday passed all too quickly and here we are again ready to go. To those of you whose children are new to Caversham Park Primary School, I would like to say a warm welcome from us all. We wish your child/children every success and happiness during their time here with us. Meanwhile, as it is the start of another school year, I would like to take this opportunity to inform/remind you of several important events/issues essential to school life.


School Uniform

It is lovely to see the children looking so smart in their school uniform on their return to school. Please can I remind you of the need to have all items of clothing, including footwear and PE kit, clearly labelled with their name, as this does make for an easier life in school and help to ensure that it remains the property of your child!



As you are aware, our school uniform provider is Price and Buckland. There is a link on the school uniform page on the school website to their website. However, non-logoed items of school uniform can be bought from various high street stores and supermarkets. Whilst, the Weller Centre on Amersham Road has a stock of previously used school uniform on offer. Please visit our school website to see a copy of our School Uniform Policy and a detailed list of required items, including the correct items of footwear. Several children have returned from the summer holiday wearing trainers or baseball boots with their school uniform. Please can I remind you that trainers and baseball boots are not part of our school uniform and trainers are to only be worn for PE and other suitable outdoor activities.

School Lunches

 Please can I remind you that you need to get back into the habit of ordering school dinners through ParentPay by 9pm on the previous evening of the day the meal is to be taken. Parents of children who are in years 1 to 6 - if you have lost your log in details, please see Mrs. Booth in the school office.


At present, school dinners cost £2.41 for Key Stage Two children, which is debited from your ParentPay account. Children in Key Stage One and Reception are entitled to a Universal Free School Meal under Government Policy. However, these too need to be ordered through your ParentPay account. When ordering school dinners, it is a good idea to get your child to choose their meals with you—that way they will always eat what is on their plate.

Please can we remind our Reception/KS1 parents, however, that if, for whatever reason, your child isn't going to have a Universal Free School Meal that you have ordered, these need to be cancelled before 9pm the night before, otherwise we get charged as a school for the cost of these meals and that is money that could be spent on resources for the children.

If, however, you prefer for your child to have a packed lunch from home, please can I remind you that we encourage healthy packed lunches and, again, a leaflet can be found on our school website outlining healthy options. Please note, we have some children in the school with allergies and so items containing sesame and nuts are not permitted. Thank you for your support and understanding with this matter.



Free School Meals


 It is important that you register with us if your child is eligible for a free school meal because of financial circumstances, regardless of whether they can have the Universal Infant Free School Meal, as this registration provides valuable funding for the school. Please contact Mrs. Mulford in the school office if you think that you might be eligible.

Healthy Snacks

Can I please remind you that the children in Key Stage 2 should be bringing fruit or vegetables as a snack at break. Crisps, biscuits and cereal bars are not permitted. The children in Reception and Key Stage 1 receive a free piece of fruit/vegetable each day at break time and so they do not need to bring in any additional snacks. All children are also encouraged to bring water in plastic bottles to drink during the school day, although there are water fountains available.



Home/School Communication

 As existing parents know, our school app is a constant form of communication between home and school. However, please can you make sure that the notifications are switched on in the school app on your phone, so that you are informed of new messages. It is also important that if you change your mobile phone number or e-mail address you inform the school office immediately. Mrs. Booth will soon be sending out new contact details and permission forms for you to update and complete.

Dropping Off & Collecting Children

Please can I remind those of you who drive your children to school about the need to park carefully so as to guarantee the safety of those walking to school and to ensure that the drives of our neighbours are not blocked in any way. Cars should not be parked on the grass or on the zig-zag areas at the front of the school. There are car parks at the Milestone Centre on Northbrook Road and at Clayfield Copse on Caversham Park Road which are only about five minutes' walk away. Can I also ask that the children do not arrive at school too early as the school gates do not open until 8:35am and we cannot be held responsible for their welfare and safety until that time. Likewise, it is essential that whoever is collecting your child/children is on the school premises to collect them at 3.15pm as the children do worry if the person collecting them is not there. If you, or the person collecting them, is likely to be late for any reason, then please contact the school office immediately, and before 3.10 pm, so we can get a message to the class teacher.



Illnesses & Absences

It is essential that you contact the office straight away if your child is going to be absent through illness and that the type of illness is given. When calling school, there is an option on the telephone system to leave an absence message which a member of the office staff will pick up as soon as possible.

Holidays are not authorised during term time and holidays taken during term time can lead to a fine being issued by the Local Authority Attendance Support Team.

Post Box

I would just like to inform our new parents/carers to the school, and remind others, that all reply slips and other items of written correspondence need to be put in the post box on the school fence by the Caversham Park Primary School sign. If these communications are given in to the class teacher they may get overlooked.

If you are sending a reply/slip letter in with your child to school please remind them to put it in the post box as they enter the school gates in the morning—they have been known to live in school bags for a couple of days!

Wrap Around Care

If you are interested in your child/children taking up a place at either of our Wrap Around Care Clubs—either on a regular or an ad hoc basis—please talk to Mrs. Mulford or Mrs. Booth in the office or visit the school website for further details. Ad hoc Breakfast Club sessions must be booked by 3.30 p.m. the day before if at all possible to ensure there is a space on that day for your child.






School Community Coffee Morning

You are all invited to join Miss Ray and Mrs. Newbury, our SENDCo, and hopefully some of our teachers, in the school hall at 8:45am on Thursday 12th September for a cuppa and a general catch up. The teachers are also hoping to pop in, if they can. If you are a new parent / carer to the school, this is a great way to meet other members of our school community. Please join us if you can.



Diary Dates

Thursday 12th September	8:45am—School Community Coffee Morning	
Friday 20th September	2:30pm—PSA Welcome Cuppa Meeting for Parents	
Wednesday 2nd October	Flu Immunisations—more details to follow	
Friday 4th October	Harvest Assembly	
Friday 25th October	8:55am —Woodpecker Class / Year 5Class Assembly for Year 4 Parents / Carers	
Friday 25th October	End of Term 1	
Monday 4th November	Start of Term 2	
Monday 11th November	10:45am—Kite Class / Year 6 Class Remembrance Assembly for Year 6 Parents / Carers	
Friday 15th November	Children in Need Day —more details to follow	
Monday 18th November	INSET Day—School Closed to the Children In-Person Parent / Carer / Teacher Meetings—more details to follow	
Friday 29th November	PSA Non-School Uniform Day	
Friday 6th December	PSA Christmas Market—more details to follow	
Wednesday 11th December	Duck & Robin Classes Christmas Play for Duck & Robin Class Parents—more details to follow	
Friday 13th December	Christmas Jumper Day	
Friday 20th December	9:00am—Carol Concert 1:30pm—End of Term 2	

Finally, I would just like to say that I wish all of the children and staff in our school a happy and successful year ahead. I look forward to continue working in partnership with you all.

Miss Ray