



Brunton First Newsletter

September



2023

Welcome Back!

It has been wonderful to welcome you all back to school and to meet lots of new families. It has also been lovely to meet many grandparents and extended family members too. I have really enjoyed chatting with everyone and catching up on your news.

The children have settled in so well and are already hard at work! It is a pleasure to see their happy faces and the excitement of sharing their achievements.

Curriculum and Coffee

Coffee and Curriculum meetings are back for the autumn term in Years 1 to 4 and we are looking forward to welcoming you in. Hopefully you will have 'saved the date' already as we are supporting the Macmillan Coffee Mornings alongside the meeting. It will be a good time for you to meet staff while having a coffee and catch up with other families. All sessions start at 9am in the hall.

Year 1 Monday 11th September

Year 2 Tuesday 12th September

Year 3 Wednesday 13th September

Year 4 Thursday 14th September

Reception Coffee Morning Friday 15th September, teachers will not be attending this meeting as staff met Reception families in July. However, myself and Mrs Appleby look forward to seeing you.



Clubs

We are delighted to announce the wide range of clubs once again this term organised by Mrs Appleby. There are 21 clubs on offer this term. Please take the time to read the information she has sent out with the booking arrangements as there are a few changes.

Celebrations

Huge congratulations to Mrs Evans who very quietly got married in the holidays to the surprise of all of us! We are so pleased for her and her new husband and wish them every happiness.

Mrs Evans has chosen to keep her name at school to avoid confusion!

Climbing frames

As you know, we have some fantastic climbing equipment around the school but as has been the rule since their installation, children are not permitted to play on them before or after school. Please ensure you pass this information on to anyone bringing your children to school or collecting them. I understand that this must appear a silly rule but while children are on our site, we have a duty of care and this involves supervision and must be included in our risk assessments for the equipment. If children are found on the climbing frames, staff will ask them to get down. I would really appreciate your support in this matter.

Parent Consultations

You will receive information in the next few weeks on how to book your consultation appointment with your child's class teacher. Please be aware that these slots fill up quickly and it is a first come first served basis.

Middle School Applications

If your child is in Year 4 you should have received a guide about applying for middle school. The leaflet has important information on the application process. You must apply **online by 31st October 2023**. Please



Monday 11th September
Coffee and Curriculum sessions begin

Wednesday 20th September
Full Governing Body Meeting

Wednesday 27th September
Reception vision screening

Wednesday 18th October
and Wednesday 25th October
Parent Consultations

Thursday 26th October
School closes for half term at 3:15pm

Friday 27th October
Teacher training day school is closed

Monday 6th November
School reopens

Friday 22nd December
School closed for Christmas holidays at 3:15pm

Monday 8th January 2023
School reopens

ensure you add your second and third choice, if you aren't allocated your first choice you may be given a school elsewhere in the city. The middle schools will soon publish information to help you make your choice.

Attendance and Lateness

**Good attendance is anything above 96%,
Attendance below 96% but higher than 90% is considered to be of concern,
Attendance falling below 90% is classed as a persistent absenteeism.**

We understand that for some of our children missing school is sometimes unavoidable and indeed they may have had prolonged periods of illness which we know about and take steps to support parents while their children are unwell. Some children go through periods of being unwell and seem to be susceptible to all viruses their peers catch.

Gosforth Schools' Trust are committed to sharing the same message. Every day your child is out of school results in an unauthorised absence for each session, they miss (two sessions per day). Please see our current policy for Attendance on our website. The policy is currently under review and we will inform you when it has been agreed by our Governing Body.

Lateness is another contributing factor to children's loss of learning. The gates open at **8:30am**, classes open at **8:40am** and learning begins at **8:45am**. The gates are left open until **9am** to account for any minor lateness.

Medication and Medical Plans

If your child needs medication in school, please ensure you take it to the school office it should not be handed over on the door without completing the relevant forms. It is crucial that we have up to date medical information and procedures in place to be able to care for your children appropriately. If your child is in reception or has a new medical issue please get in touch with Mrs Lee.

Photographs

Please do not take photographs on the school site or of the displays in the windows. We know that you will want to treasure these so photographs and work will eventually be sent home.

Safety

It is probably a good time to consider parking and access to school. The car park at the front of the school is always very busy, please take care and ensure all children are with an adult when walking through the car park and outside of school. Please remind your children to walk rather than cycle or scoot in the car park. Cars should only park/stop in a designated bay. We have a very limited number of parking spaces for our disabled families. Please be aware that the two disabled bays and area outside of the hall are for **Blue Badge holders only**.

The staff car park is always extremely busy and with staff having to triple park, please do not try to park in the staff car park, on the yellow lines outside of the school gates or block any of our neighbours' access.

Uniform

We have just updated our uniform policy and will send it out to you by Parentmail for your reference. Please pay particular attention to hairstyles, jewellery and PE kits. Our pre-loved uniform was a real success last term and we have now made this a permanent fixture at the front of the school. From time to time we will put a notice out if we run short of particular garments and sizes. Thank you for your support in this venture.

And Finally!

Thank you for an extremely positive start to the year! If we haven't yet met, please come and say hello.

Warmest Wishes



Mrs Bev Armstrong, Headteacher