

The Archer

School Newsletter No 1

23rd September 2022

DEAR PARENTS/CARERS

It has been a pleasure to welcome our community back into school following the summer break. Many thanks to all who attended our Meet The Teacher events on the 21st - we look forward to supporting your children across the academic year. In particular I would like to welcome our new families whose children started in Reception. These children have gone through a successful transition period and are now in school full time.

Queen's Funeral

As I am sure many of you have, I attended the floral tribute to Queen Elizabeth II in Green Park and laid a message on behalf of the children in school. Children attended an assembly to celebrate the impact the Queen had on our lives and took part in a minute's silence to pay our respects.

Class Dojo

This is a useful tool for supporting communication between teachers and parents. Please be aware that staff are not always able to read messages during the day as they are working with children. All messages regarding leaving school or absence should continue to go through the school office.

Uniform

Thank you all for ensuring children attend school by looking so smart at the beginning of term. A reminder that our uniform policy can be found in the policies section of our school website. We have ensured that school uniform is practical and widely available to avoid any extortionate costs.

Timings / attendance

Doors open at 8.45am for children to arrive into class – they should arrive by 8.55am at the latest. After 8.55am you should go to the office to sign in. Please ensure your children arrive with plenty of time for the beginning of the day so that they do not miss out on key learning time. I would also like to stress the importance of strong attendance and highlight the impact that periods of absence can have on a child's education.

PTA fund

Our proactive PTA have kindly donated funds to the school to provide improvements to our hall speaker units as well as additional reading materials for the children. A meeting at 6pm on Wednesday 28th will outline the details for planned events this coming year. We greatly appreciate your attendance at this meeting as well as support throughout the year. Please look out for future PTA newsletters with information on how you can be more involved.

Can you help?

The school is looking to add some additional screens into learning spaces and school corridors for display. If you have a larger flat screen television (over 32" with HDMI input) that is in good working condition, please inform the office. Additionally, if you have any resources we could use in forest school (for example bug hotels, large logs etc.) then please contact the office. Thank you.

Parking

Please continue to respect our children's safety if you are parking around the school. We continue to engage with local parking enforcement teams to ensure that rules are respected. We would also request that you are mindful of not blocking neighbours' driveways.

House Captains and School Council Members

Children have elected house captains from Year 6 who will support around the school and act as role models for their peers. I was lucky enough to hear some of the speeches the children prepared and we have some very convincing public speakers in the cohort! Each class has also chosen school council members who will be discussing how they would like to improve the school and offering a pupil voice to some important school decisions.

Metacognition

A major focus for the school this year will be on Metacognition - thinking about thinking. We will be working with the children to understand how they learn and support them in developing techniques to develop their memory and recall of important knowledge. We will keep you informed of some of the key content the children will be covering in school.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

You are welcome to join us in the KS1 hall on Friday 30th September 9.00-10.00am to join our coffee morning – cake donations welcome beforehand to KS1 hall.

BOOKING SCHOOL LUNCHES

If your child has school meals would you please book your child's lunches via ParentPay. It is a school rule that children have a whole week of school dinners or packed lunches. Please do not chop and change during the week. If you have already booked a meal and this is subsequently not required, would you please cancel the meal.

We thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

School run clubs

Clubs start next week from w/c 26th September and the last week of clubs before Christmas will be 28th November. We encourage strong attendance from children who have signed up for a club, but if for any reason your child cannot attend, please ask your child to advise the teacher. My thanks to all the teachers offering these opportunities to the children.