

# NEWSLETTER Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023

### A Special Welcome...

A very special welcome back to everyone! In particular, to our new Year One and Nursery children and anyone joining us for the first time this year. We are really looking forward to working with you all.

#### Diary Dates:

<u>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> - Paws B in Yr6</u> <u>Fri 15<sup>th</sup> - Jo Jingles in Nursery & Y1</u>

# MORNING ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS FOR PUPILS

Children will go directly to class from 8.30am. Children should NOT be dropped off without supervision before this time.

- Year 1 will enter their classroom via the side gate outside Year 1 play area. Staff will be there to help settle children.
- Year 2-7 will all enter the school grounds via the main gate.
- Year 2/3 will be guided to their entrance by staff.

# PICK UP ARRANGEMENTS

Nursery and Year 1 - information sent separately via SEESAW

Year 2 - Finish at 2pm

**Year 3** - Term 1,2 &3

Mon/Tues finish at 3pm

Wed/Thurs/Fri finish at 2pm

<u>Year 4-7</u> Finish at 3pm - pupils will be dismissed via the main gate.

#### WALKING HOME

If your child is in P4-P7 and wants to walk home, or walk to the car, you must return the permission slip that was sent home. If you intend to collect your child at the gate you do not need to return the form.

#### STAFF COMPLEMENT - REMINDER

Class Teachers / Assistants

Class Teacher's / Assistants				
Class	Teacher	Supported by		
N	Mrs Henry	Mrs Walker		
		Miss Nelson		
У1	Mrs McCrea	Miss Mowbray		
	Mrs McGuckin			
У2	Mrs McIlwaine	Miss McClean		
		Miss Smyth		
У3	Mrs Mullan	Miss Smyth		
У4	Mrs Martin	Miss Corey		
	Mrs Bradford			
У5	Mrs Conway	Mrs McMullan		
		Mrs Mullan		
		Miss Corey		
У6	Mr Crooks	Mrs Martin		
У7	Mr Kelly	Mrs Millar		
	Miss Menary	Mrs Quinn		
ENGAGE	Mrs McGuckin	Mrs Dobson		
	Mrs Bradford			

# <u>Special Needs Coordinator</u> (SENCO):

Mrs Conway

# <u>Child Protection Team (Safeguarding</u> Team):

Child Protection Policy and Safeguarding Team

Please find a copy of our Child Protection Policy on our school website. If you have any concerns about a child, then please speak to a member of the Safeguarding Team:

Designated Teacher: Mrs Martin (Y4 Teacher) and Mrs Conway (Year 5 Teacher)

Deputy Designated Teacher: Mr Kelly (Y7 Teacher/VP) Mrs McCrea (Y1 Teacher) and Mrs Henry (Nursery Teacher)

Principal: Mrs Watson/Mr Kelly

#### Breakfast club from 8.15AM

Breakfast club will commence on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September. Children who wish to have a breakfast snack can come to school from 8.15am. All items will cost 30p. Children should meet at main gate at 8.15 and will be supervised in the hall. Once they finish their breakfast, they can go to class at 8.30am.

Breakfast club will close at 8.45am when all children will go to class.

#### SCHOOL BAGS

We prefer everyone to use Phoenix School bags as they are part of our school uniform. Book bags Y1-2, Ruck Sacks 3-7. These can be purchased by sending money in an envelope clearly marked to the class teacher. Book bags are £5 and rucksacks are £8. Year 1 will be provided with a Book Bag free of charge.

#### PE INFORMATION

P.E will begin for all classes week beginning Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Sept. Pupils should come to school dressed in their full P.E kit on these days. Please ensure that your child comes to school with their coat every day as many P.E sessions will take place outside.

Year	Days to wear full P.E	Activity
Group	kit to school	
Year 1	Monday	P.E
	Thursday	P.E
Year 2	Wednesday	P.E
	Friday	P.E
Year 3	Monday	P.E
	Wednesday	P.E
Year 4	Tuesday	P.E
	Friday	Swimming
Year 5	Tuesday	PE
	Wednesday	Swimming
Year 6	Tuesday	P.E
	Thursday	P.E
Year 7	Monday	P.E
	Wednesday	P.E

If PE dates change the class teacher will let you know.

## AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS

Afterschool clubs are due to commence the week beginning  $11^{th}$  September. Further information will be sent home.

#### HEALTHY BREAK!

http://www.childrensfoodtrust.org.uk/childrensfood-trust/parents/

As the school participates in Healthy Break Programme which is encouraged by the Dept of Education please support us by sending in fresh fruit, fresh vegetables or plain bread based snack for your child (Y2-7). In line with healthy eating guidelines for Primary Schools, the snack should be fruit, vegetable or bread based with no sugary spreads. Crisps, bars, etc are not acceptable as break choices but can be eaten at lunch time. In addition, it is <u>water only</u> at school - no juice in water bottles. Check out the School Food Trust website for support with healthy snacks and lunchboxes.

<u>School Dinner Costs</u> - School dinners this year will be £2.60 per day, £13.00 per week paid via the school money app.

Free School Meals you MUST apply every year. This can now be done online via the Education Authority website. You need to check to ensure your child is on our Free School List <u>before</u> you send them for a cooked meal. Dinners should be paid for until you are sure your FSM application has been granted. Check in with Mrs Purvis at the office.

# How do we contact parents?

We currently use the following ways to keep in touch - Text service, Facebook, Newsletter, Website, Class Online Platforms (SEESAW/Google classroom), telephone and letter/note. The school also has a TWITTER profile - if you are on twitter, please follow us @phoenixips

Please remember to check Seesaw regularly for messages sent by your child's class teacher.

In line with safe use of the internet we would like to remind you of the following points for using social media:

- Please do not mention any child's name in a post - tag a parent if you want to share.
- If you have a problem with anything in school, please address directly with school. Message facility on FB is not used as a means of communication - we prefer direct contact. Please ring or speak directly to someone at school if you have any messages, etc.

<u>Please keep us informed of any changes in personal information, especially Telephone numbers.</u>

## NEW SCHOOL BUILD

We are delighted with the progress that has been made on the new school build. Some work has now been completed on the car park. We would remind anyone who parks at they leisure centre that they shouldn't be parking along the leisure centre road as cars parked can block the view of other drivers who may not then see pupils crossing the road. Please see the separate note with attached map that was sent home for further details about the car park new layout and where to park.

# SCHOOL UNIFORM

Everyone looks very smart in their school uniform. To support the school please ensure your child wears correct school uniform at all times including the correct shoes, which should be black. Children should not wear any type of "labelled" tracksuit bottoms for PE days. Plain black bottoms only - no sports brands.

Jewellery should not be worn (except plain stud earnings).

Long hair should be tied back.

Thank you for your support with this.

Please label uniforms with your child's name. So many sweatshirts and jumpers go missing and it is very difficult for us to monitor this!

#### **NUT FREE ZONE!**

Due to allergies in school we are a completely **NUT FREE ZONE**. Please respect this when you are preparing lunch boxes and snacks.

### MUSIC LESSONS

We will continue to offer tin whistle, guitar, singing and piano lessons.

Ryan McGarrity will be recommencing tin whistle lessons on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September and guitar lessons on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September. If your child received lessons last year, please send them with their tin whistle on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> or guitar on Friday 8th to receive their first lesson.

A letter regarding singing and piano lessons will be sent out in due course. Priority will be given to those pupils who commenced piano and singing lessons in 2022/23.

If spaces become available for music tuition, a letter with more information will be sent home.