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'Educating For Life In All Its Fullness'

Returning to School – September 2023

Dear Families,

I hope you have all had a great holiday and the children have had chance for a well-deserved rest before we start the new school year. Monday 4th September is a training day with the children starting back on Tuesday 5th September. (Although staff will be in school on Monday 4th September, the office will not be continually staffed, as we will be all in training for much of the time. If you need to contact school, please email or leave a message on the answerphone and we will get back to you).

At the end of term, I sent out various information regarding the start of term and school routines. Below are a few reminders and updates.

The School Day.

We are not planning any changes to the school day for September. The gates will open at 8.40am and close at 8.50am to alleviate some of the parking issues and to allow for a more settled entry into school and start to the day. Class 1, 2 and 4 will continue to enter school via the black gates entrance and Class 3 via the office to aid flow in a morning. After 8.50am your child will be classed arriving late and you will need to bring your child through the main door and sign them in. Punctuality is important.

At the end of the day the gates will open at 3.05pm to enable you to collect the children at 3.15pm when the class teachers will bring them to the playgrounds. At the end of the day any children left waiting for collection will be sent to the After School Club unless you let us know about an unforeseen delay (You may then be charged for a session).

School Lunches

For families with children in Reception and Class 2 school lunches will remain free in September. For children in Classes 3 and 4 the catering agency have increased charges per meal so there will be a very slight increase from £2.44 to £2.55 per day. With cost of food increasing the way it is, this small increase feels justified.

Before and After School Club (Now to be called 'Sunrise' and 'Sunset Club')

Mrs Flowerdew will be sending out new Sunrise and Sunset Club registration documents. It is important that you complete these, even if you have done one before so we have up to date contact details and also to show that you are aware of the routines associated with using the clubs.

We are planning to be able to offer the same flexible system of booking as this year with places available to book up to the night before. We want to be able to support families in this way and this system is unusual for schools. Most require families to pre-book regular slots often weeks in advance and we are keen to avoid this and to provide a service when families need us.



We do ask that families help us with this by making sure they book and don't just turn up or leave children at the end of the day without letting us know.

The fees for the clubs are being kept the same for September 2023. We will try to maintain this for as long as possible, but may be reviewed during the year in light of increased costs.

Before School Club	7.45 – 8.45am (Fruit is available but no breakfast is provided)	£5.00
After School Session 1	3.15 – 4.30pm (Snack included)	£6.50
After School Session 2	4.30 – 6pm (Evening meal included)	£6.50

The payment system will continue to work the same way with families paying at the time of booking. In emergencies, children can be booked into club on the by the school office. If this is the case, you will need to pay the next time you log onto the system. The majority of families are very good at supporting school with this. A very small number of families build up considerable arrears in payments despite regular reminders from the school office. Families arrears of more than £39 per child (3 full evening sessions) will not be able to attend clubs until the debt is cleared. We are sorry to have to do this but school cannot afford to either hold these debts, or the staffing costs required to repeatedly chase payments. This change will have no effect families who book in advance or clear emergency booking arrears quickly.

School Uniform

If you are planning on purchasing new uniform over the summer break there are no changes to the current uniform. The requirements are as follows:

- *Royal Blue V-necked jumper or cardigan*
- *Dark grey skirt or grey trousers (Not leggings or trousers with decoration),*
- *A white cotton blouse or shirt*
- *A school tie. (These are also available from the school office)*



PE Kit

On PE days the children should come to school in their PE kit to avoid having to change. PE kit consists of:

- *Navy blue/black plain jogging bottoms or leggings*
- *Navy blue shorts can be worn in warmer weather*
- *A school hoodie top (available from Kool Kidz)*
- *A school PE top (available from Kool Kidz)*
- *Trainers (preferably plain and dark coloured, ideally black)*

The school office has a small stock of ties, winter hats, book bags and shoe/swimming bags.

The skirts / trousers / blouses / shirts / summer dresses can be obtained from any high street store. School tie and school jumpers, embroidered with the school crest, can be ordered from Kool Kidz in Wetherby (01937 589422 or www.koolkidzuniforms.com). Fleece, Waterproof coats and hats with the school logo are also available for parents who choose to purchase them.



Alternatively, the PTA have Pre-loved uniform which can be purchased via their website and collected from school. (<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/harewoodpta/index.cfm?event=products>) There is also a link to the PTA website on the top menu bar of the school homepage.

Footwear

Shoes should be **black school shoes** (not trainers). If bad weather requires the children to wear wellies or boots while travelling to school, they should bring their school shoes with them to change once here.

Details of all the uniform with pictures can also be found on the school website <https://harewood.leeds.sch.uk/uniform/>

Jewellery and Hairstyles

Jewellery should not be worn to school. Earrings must be simple studs (no loops, etc. for safety reasons in PE). Long hair which reaches the shoulder should be tied back with a simple bobble or hair band in school colours or black.

Contact information

During the year you may have changed phone number, email or even moved house. It is important that families keep school up to date with changes so we have correct contact details. This should also be details of the people you have listed as other emergency contacts.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone back with us and to welcome our new reception next week. I am sure the children will be keen to share what they have been doing over the break and to see friends again. Enjoy the rest of this week.

Mr Ratcliffe
Headteacher

