

2nd September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a very enjoyable summer break and are as excited to be coming back to school as we are.

As you prepare for the school reopening on Monday we wanted to confirm with you all of the information you will need to be ready for the start of the new school day.

A very warm welcome to the families of the children in Reception. We look forward to getting to know your children over their induction period as they build up to fulltime with us.

Communication

Parents can continue to access the year group emails to contact teachers but should telephone the office if a message is urgent and relates to being picked up.

School Comms - log in to receive letters and mail from school. This is very important to keep you updated with school events and key information and is our main form of communication.

School Calendar - You can link this from our website to your mobile devices. This has key dates in and is updated regularly.

Facebook - Our school page is run by us and is used to celebrate what is going on in the school, as well as staff and pupil achievements. We also use this to pass on important messages alongside school comms e.g. school closures, weather alerts etc.

Class Facebook Pages -These are set up and run by parents who update them and do not form part of the official school comms but can be very helpful to parents!

Class Charts - Log in to see awards and house points your children have been given.

Bug Club and Times Tables Rock Stars - home learning accounts your children will have access to.

ParentPay - log in to make payments to school for trips, school dinners, music lessons etc.

The School Website

This holds a range of key information about the school and we encourage all parents to remind themselves of some of the key content. Below is a summary of some of the key info but not all.

About Us: Staffing, Safeguarding, Policies, Governance, SEND, E-Safety

Parent Zone: Attendance, Behaviour and Anti-Bullying, PE Timetables, Wrap Around Care, School Meals, Wellbeing Support. This also includes recorded workshops to support parent understanding of what we do in school and how you can help at home.

Pupil Zone: Information about the pupil leadership opportunities we have in school.

Curriculum: This contains a wealth of information about what our pupils learn across the school and is where we archive the curriculum newsletters we send out. This is really helpful in developing your understanding about what your children are learning in school.

News and Events: This includes news stories about what has happened in the school community, archived whole school newsletters and the School Calendar. This can be very helpful for checking back to.

Keeping Us Updated and In Communication with You

It is really important that the school has updated contact details (minimum of 2 people) for every child so that we can stay in communication with you and get hold of an adult in the event of an emergency. If your contact details have changed over the summer break, please don't forget to update us! Don't forget to update us if you change email addresses as you will stop getting any updates from us. If we go quiet for a while it is always worth checking your junk box!

School Day

A reminder of the start and end times for EYFS, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 are:-

- EYFS and KS1 8.45 3.15
- KS2 8.40 3.20

Attendance

If your child is unable to attend school you should ring or email the school office as soon as you know before the start of the school day. The school office is open from 8am. If the school office hasn't received a message to explain your child's absence we will contact you to check the reason for your child's absence.

Volunteers

We will be welcoming volunteers back into school in due course and will be emailing the school community when we have established our routines and the staff and children are confident with the new expectations. All regular volunteers will need to have applied for and received an up to date DBS certificate.

Walking Home in KS2

If you wish your child to walk home independently please complete the form in the link below so we can update our class teachers ready for the end of day on Monday 5th of September.

Our school value for Term 1 is "Responsibility". As we make the final preparations for Monday we look forward to all of the exciting opportunities a new school year brings and making new memories.

Diary Dates

Monday 5th September - First day of term, EYFS Parent Teacher Meetings Tuesday 6th September - Y4 WOW Day "USA Theme", EYFS Parent Teacher Meetings Thursday 8th September – Y6 WOW Day "Victorians", Y6 Camp Parents Meeting 5pm (via Teams) Friday 16th September – Year 6 Lifeskills Trip Tuesday 20th – Thursday 22nd September - Year 4 Barton Camp Trip 17th and 22nd November - Parents' Evenings

Yours faithfully,

Richard Riordan Headteacher Portishead Primary School