



## NEWSLETTER NUMBER ONE



13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the new school year. It is so lovely to see the children back in school.

My first newsletter is rather long but I urge you to read it carefully as it contains some vital information.

### **Welcome to our new staff**

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new staff: Mrs Tqabladze (Sunflower), Ms Owoo (Sage), Ms Andare (Lavender) and Mrs Riley (Fuchsia). I know you will all make them feel at home with us. They have already settled in well and are looking forward to getting to know the children. Remember to give them a wave if you see them in the playground.

### **Uniform**

As you are all aware, it is our expectation that all children will wear the correct school uniform at all times.

- All children Year 1-6 must be wearing a school **shirt with a tie**. The shirt must have a stiff collar and have a button at the top. Open neck shirts or ones with round collars are not allowed. Polo shirts are only worn for PE or in Nursery and Reception.
- V-neck knitted jumpers and cardigans must be worn in Y1-6; round-neck sweatshirts are only allowed as part of the PE kit or in Nursery and Reception.
- Rucksacks are only allowed for pupils in **Year 3-6** and must be **plain** black, or navy, or the rucksack from the uniform shop (we do not allow rucksacks with patterns, or other colours) . Pupils in Nursery, Reception, Y1 & Y2 **must** use book bags.
- Children must wear black shoes; trainers are only for use during PE lessons.
- Denim, faux fur or leather jackets are not part of school uniform.
- School coats must be plain black or navy. Green coats are not allowed.
- Earrings and other jewellery items are not allowed. Please make sure these are removed before children come to school.

**Please can you name all of your child's uniform**, we have already found numerous items that have been left behind and are not named!

If you need a copy of the uniform list, you can find it on the school website in the Parent section.

### **Dropping Off and Collecting Children**

School starts at 8.40am and closes at 3.20pm. We have both gates open so there is no excuse for being late. The gates remain open for 10 minutes until 8.50am, any children arriving after 8.50am will be marked as late. Any children collected after 3.30pm will be considered a late

collection. Lateness is not only disruptive for the children but also impacts on my staff. Please ensure your children are dropped off and collected promptly. I will be monitoring lateness and will contact you if necessary.

### **Communication Books**

Each child has been given a Communication Book for you to use to send the classteacher notes about your child and for the teacher to communicate things with you. Please check the book every night as we often stick in messages about non-uniform days or other events. Please remember that these books are not private and may be read by adults or children in the school. If you need to discuss something in more depth, please email the school office [office@st-jodag.bardaglea.org.uk](mailto:office@st-jodag.bardaglea.org.uk) to request a meeting with the class teacher, Mrs Hinton, Mrs Docherty (SENCO) or myself.

### **Communication with Parents**

Most communication from school will be sent to you via email. Please can you make sure you are checking your emails on a daily basis so that you don't miss out on any events. If you are not receiving emails from us, please check with the office that we have the correct email address.

### **Newsletters**

The weekly newsletter will continue to be issued every Friday. This will be emailed out to parents and will be available on the school website in the 'Parent' section.

### **School Lunches**

We have a very good menu with 3 hot options and 2 cold options every day for your children to choose from. School meals are still free of charge to all children from Reception to Year 6. Nursery children are charged at £2.10 per day (the Government initiative has not been extended to Nursery pupils). To see what meals we offer, please visit the Parent section of our school website.

### **Packed Lunches:**

If you choose to send your child to school with a packed lunch may I remind you that under our Healthy School Accreditation we do not permit fizzy drinks, chocolate, or sweets. Also remember that we are a '**NUT FREE SCHOOL**'. It is essential that you do not send in any food items containing nuts or cooked in nut oils as this is extremely dangerous for some of our children. **This includes peanut butter and Nutella/hazelnut spread in sandwiches.**

### **Clubs:**

Sports Clubs, run by Superstar Sports, have been arranged and a flyer was emailed to all parents with children in Years R-6. All bookings should be made directly with Superstar Sports. Teacher led clubs will be starting after half term.

### **Extended After School Provision**

We now have Superstar Sports providing an after school session from 3.20 to 6pm. All bookings should be made directly with Superstar Sports.

### **Breakfast Club**

Breakfast Club is available from 7.30am to 8.40am. This is run by school staff so needs to be paid for using ParentPay. The charge of £3.50 per day must be paid in advance and places can be booked by contacting Mrs McKeag in the school office.

### **Diary Dates:**

I have already emailed you a copy of the diary dates for this term. If you did not receive the email, you can find a copy on our school website in the News and Events section. Once again, we will be running lots of events to help you support your child's learning.

### **Mobile Phones:**

In Years 5 & 6 the children who are walking home alone are allowed to bring in a mobile phone. These are to be handed in to the class teacher/TA in the morning and will be stored in the school office. All phones will be returned at the end of the day. The school cannot accept any responsibility for phones whilst they are on the school premises.

### **Year 6 Secondary School Applications**

Year 6 children have been given information about how to apply for a Secondary School place. It is vital that you read the information carefully and follow the instructions on how to apply for a place at your chosen Secondary School by **31<sup>st</sup> October 2023**.

### **Start of Term Mass**

Our start of term Mass will take place on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 9.30am in Holy Family Church. Years 1-6 will be in attendance and Nursery and Reception children will access the Mass online. It would be lovely to see some of you there to celebrate the start of the new school year with us.

Lord

Give our children a thirst for knowledge, wisdom and understanding.  
May their hearts be ready to learn this year, at home, at school and at church.  
Open their ears, may they crave knowledge and seek it out.

In Jesus' name

Amen