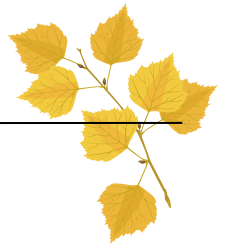




WELBECK PRIMARY – PARENT NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN TERM 2021



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to our new school year! I hope you have had a wonderful summer holiday and enjoyed time with your families. It has been so lovely to see many of you on school grounds again and able to take your child to their classroom door. The children have made an excellent start to the new term-they look refreshed and so smart in their Welbeck uniforms. Can I take this opportunity to welcome any new parents/carers to our community.

Today we received a letter from Mel Barrett, Chief Executive of Nottingham City Council who wanted to thank the staff and Governors for their Covid response. It states,

“I understand that your staff have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic to ensure that all of your pupils and families have been supported to continue their outstanding education, alongside nurturing support of ensuring a regular supply of food parcels, welfare rights advice and safeguarding the most vulnerable pupils in your community. I’m told that you have been singular in your drive, but also very creative in ensuring the very best outcomes for both pupils and the wider community. I’d like to personally thank you, the staff and Governors for the demonstration of such an active commitment to ensuring Welbeck is a school that fully embraces its role as both an educator and community champion.”

It was a lovely letter to receive and hope you feel as proud of our school as we do to work here.

This year, life in school is back to normal with whole school assemblies, in school parent events, mixing of classes and visitors in school. We have so many activities planned including topic trips, new after school clubs, sports competitions and musical performances. Please see below for key dates. Please remember that school **starts later now at 8.40am and finishes at 3.10pm**. No children must be left unattended before 8.40am as there will not be a staff member outside.

As you are aware, all children are expected to attend school **every day** with all appointments made outside of school hours or in the holidays please. If your child is ill, please ring the school office by 9am and inform us of their absence. If your child is displaying any Covid-19 symptoms e.g new persistent cough, high temperature of 38C+ or sudden loss of taste/smell, please do not bring them to school and book a Covid test. Children must still come to school if they have been in contact with someone who has tested positive.

Class welcome meetings:

Each class teacher will hold a welcome meeting to share information with you. Your child’s class teacher will send a letter this week with further information.

Reading at home:

Please support us in our aim to get all children to the expected level by reading at home **4 times per week**. I appreciate this can be challenging at times, however, it really does help with all areas of their learning. Reading before bed is a great way to ensure a good night’s sleep. Please sign their diary for your child to win the reading treat.

Many thanks for your ongoing support,

Mrs Rebecca Gittins

Headteacher

Key dates to note for the term (more class dates on the class newsletter)

Date	Time	Class	Event
Tuesday 14 th September	am	Rec-Y6	School photographer
Wednesday 15 th - Friday 17 th September	All day	Y6	Y6 Residential to Castleton
Tuesday 28 th September	2.45pm	F2	Phonics workshop for parents
Thursday 7 th October	am	Y6	Samba performance at The Playhouse
Thursday 14 th October	2.30pm	Y3-Y6	Harvest Festival
Friday 15 th October	am	F2-Y6	Reading treat prizes awarded
Friday 15 th October	pm	Merit winners	Afternoon tea with Mrs Gittins
Friday 15 th October	-	All	Break up for half term
Monday 1 st November	-	All	Return to school
Monday 1 st November	am	Rec-Y6	Flu vaccination
Tuesday 9 th and Wednesday 10 th November	3.30-6pm	All	Open evenings
Friday 26 th November	All day	All	INSET day

Other important reminders for your information and attention:

Children's safety and well being

Bikes

Only Y5 and 6 children may ride a bike to school. Bikes must be roadworthy and should be locked safely in the bike area. Helmets must be worn.

Screen time

Children using screens can lead to problems with their attention and behaviour. Please limit them as much as possible and check they are not talking to any strangers online or on APPs too old for their age.

Pupil Premium Funding

If you receive Universal Credit or earn less than £16k per year, your child is **entitled** to additional financial support including educational support, and uniform and trips costs. Please fill out a form in the office if you think you qualify.

Parking

Please do not park on the double yellow lines or block driveways on Kinglake Place. Traffic wardens arrive daily and are happy to ticket anyone parked outside the bays. The staff car park is for staff only.

Collecting children

Please note: **NO** child may be collected by anyone under aged 16. Safety is a priority. Let us know who is collecting your child if it is not the usual people. We will not let children go with anyone we don't know.

Attendance – Aim for 100%

We expect all children to attend every day. If your child is **ill ring us** on the first day. One day for Eid may be authorised. Children should not be collected early unless it is an emergency.

Holidays are NOT allowed in term time. If you take an unauthorised absence for a period of time, without informing us, your child will be classed as missing and reported to the authorities. Requests for leave of absence must be made in writing stating the exceptional circumstances. A reply will be given.

For **medical and dentist** appointments resulting in absence or lateness we will need to see your appointment card or letter.

All absence is followed up through phone calls and letters. **Persistent absence** is attendance below 90% and is reported to Education Welfare. Expected attendance is 96% and above.

Safeguarding Children

Children's safety and well-being are our priority. Any welfare concerns should be shared with Mrs Gittins, Mr Cobbe or Mrs Coull and will be followed up with parents. It is our duty of care.

Any serious concerns will be reported to children's services following LA guidance. If concerns are discussed or reported we are not accusing anyone but merely asking for investigations to take place. Our Safeguarding Policy is on the website. Our new school counsellor, Beth, provides support for children and parents. Children are referred with parent's permission. An appointment can be made with her through the school office.

School uniform

Please ensure your child wears a white polo shirt not blue and has black shoes/trainers. All uniform must be labelled.
Only stud earrings are permitted, no bracelets or necklaces please for safety reasons.

School Governors

The Chair of governors is:
Mrs D Carter
The parent governors are:
Mr Chaudry and Mrs Mohammed

Cashless Payment System – School Meals, Breakfast Club and Educational Visits

To enable you to pay for school meals, breakfast club and educational visits you will need to register with The School Gateway (online payment system).

We will no longer accept cash payments.

If you require help to register please come and speak with the office team.

School photographer

A school photographer will be on site on Tuesday 14th September. You will receive a letter to see if you'd like your child's photo taken-please complete and return asap.

Milk – Reception and KS1 children only

If you would like your child to have milk you will need to register with School Milk UK. You only need to register if you pay for your child's milk. If you are in receipt of benefits and you qualify for FSM please speak to the office as your child may be free. If unsure or require help please speak to the office team.

Healthy Schools – Healthy Lunches!!

All Reception and KS1 children are still having free, freshly cooked, healthy school lunches. Menus are available on the website. If you need help applying for free school meals for older children ask at the office.

Packed lunches for KS2 children should include:

- Sandwich (no jam or chocolate spread)
- Fruit
- Drink (water or juice, nothing fizzy)
- Any other healthy snacks (carrot, raisins, yoghurt etc)

No sweets, chocolate or biscuits should be included and please limit crisps per week.

As a healthy school we are expected to promote healthy eating. All Foundation Stage and KS1 children have milk and fruit. KS2 children may bring bottles of water and fruit for playtime.

Medicine

If your child is completing a prescribed course of medicine from the doctor and has been declared fit for school, Mrs Gittins may administer that medicine. Forms need to be filled in at the office. All medicine must be labelled with the child's name and dosage from the pharmacist. We **cannot** administer paracetamol, Calpol or any medicine not prescribed by the doctor.

Communication

Emergency Contact Numbers

Make sure we have your most recent phone number as well as a second contact. If you change phones or address please let us know immediately. Several numbers we tried recently were out of use.

We do our best to keep you fully informed, we will communicate with you through:

- Letters - Look in your child's book bag daily when you read please.
- Email - Let us know your email address
- Text - Make sure we have your up to date phone number
- Website - www.welbeck.nottingham.sch.uk
- Outside noticeboards
- Twitter: @WelbeckPrimaryS Please download the free app and follow us as we post pictures daily.