



Start of Spring Term Newsletter

We would like to wish all of our children, parents and cares a Happy New Year.

We are so excited to be welcoming old and new pupils on Monday 10th January. We hope you have had a lovely break and are feeling re-energised for this term.

We are sure our Nursery children will be very excited to have Mrs Kennerly back after her absence last half term.

We will also be welcoming a new member to our support team in Key Stage One- Miss Ward.

COVID

Sadly, this horrid virus is still with us and there are certain things we have kept in place in an attempt to avoid an outbreak and lower transmission. We have listed these below:

- School gates will open at 8.35am and children will be expected to go straight into their class base. Please do not arrive any earlier than this. Registration and formal learning will begin at 8.45am
- All children to bring in their own water bottle. This should be taken home every day to be cleaned
- Children will still be expected to hand wash and sanitize on a regular basis
- Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned throughout the day
- Personal belongings from home brought into school to be kept to a minimal please. No over-sized bags, unnecessary toys or gadgets
- All classrooms will be well-ventilated, ie windows open. We would therefore suggest an additional layer of clothing be worn under the children's school uniform

Our latest risk assessment can be found on our school website.

Start and end of the day

All children should be in school by 8.45am for a prompt start to their learning. As mention above both sets of gates will be open from 8.35am to allow a gradual entry into school.

Gates for the end of the school day will open be open from 2.50pm.

We would ask that only one adult drops your child/children off and collects them, to keep adult mixing on the playground to a minimum.

Where possible, if your key stage 2 child can walk to meet you away from the school grounds or are able to walk home without you please provide consent for this to happen. If you need a consent form for this please contact the school office.

Uniform

We expect all children to attend school wearing the correct uniform, including footwear.

Below are our expectations:

- White Shirt or White / Burgundy polo shirt
- Burgundy Cardigan / Sweatshirt or fleece

For girls:

- black or grey skirts, trousers or dresses
- red gingham dresses in summer

For boys:

- black or grey trousers. **Not joggers.**
- shorts in summer

Black shoes should be worn by all our pupils. No trainers or canvas shoes allowed.

PE

We would still like children to come to school in their PE kits on the days when they have PE.

Below outlines PE kit expectations:

- black shorts/grey/black joggers
- a white/burgundy t-shirt
- plimsols or trainers
- if hair is long enough to be tied up it should be on PE days please

Below is a list of PE days for each class:

Puffins & Robins	Magpie	Dove	Jay	Nightingale
Friday	Monday Thursday	Tuesday Thursday	Wednesday Thursday	Wednesday Thursday
Kingfisher	Goldcrest	Kittiwake	Swift	Siskin
Tuesday Thursday	Tuesday Friday	Wednesday Friday	Monday Friday	Monday Friday

Morning break snack or tuck

A reminder that children are welcome to bring a healthy snack in from home to eat during morning break. Or they can purchase something from our tuck shop, such as toast, fruit, a health drink.

Items from the tuck shop are 30p each. A child can have up to 2 item per morning break.

We will continue to ask that all monies for tuck are sent in on a Monday morning in a sealed envelope with your child's name on. The envelope should have either £1.50 or £3 in. Please ensure correct amount is place in the envelope.

Breakfast and After-school clubs

Birklands will continue offering wrap-around care to the children of our working parents. You will need to book a place via the school website. As places are limited please only use this wrap-around care when you are working.

Breakfast club is from 7.30am. Anyone booked in for this should arrive by 8.00am. And it costs £2.

Our after-school wrap around care is from 3.00pm until 5.30pm. Although your child should be collected as soon as you finish work. The cost for this is £7.50 for regular use and £8.00 for ad-hoc use.

Bikes and Scooters

If your child opts to ride their bike or scooter to school we will be allowing them to be kept on the school grounds until the end of the day. They will need to keep them against the wall near the main entrance to the school. Storing them there means the children do not have access to them during the day.

School office hours

A reminder that our school office hours are 8.00am until 3.30pm. Although staff will be in school either side of these times they are busy preparing or in meetings. You are able to leave a message, if the phone is not answered.

Hopefully, that has provided you will all the key information you need for now. Each class will be sending out their half-term newsletter early next week. So please make sure we have your contact details.

**"ALONE WE CAN DO SO
LITTLE, TOGETHER WE CAN
DO SO MUCH."**

--HELEN KELLER--

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