

General information 2015-16

General/Class Letters

We have a regular newsletter which is sent to you via your oldest child. All general letters, class letters etc are sent with the relevant pupil. If your child is absent the letter will be kept for them with their name written on it.

In the Reception Class an adult will ensure your child's letter goes into their bag and they will look for replies etc. Our aim is to develop your child's independence in their first year. By the summer term children will be responsible for their letters in preparation for moving up to year one.

In KS1 (class 2) letters are handed to the pupils and it is the pupils' responsibility to ensure it goes into their bags and to their parents. If a reply is required, your child should put it into the BLUE BOX. The 'blue box' is for letters, slips, lunch orders etc, and goes into class each morning with the register. You can assist our systems by ensuring your child knows when there is a letter in their bag. This system is the same in every class

By KS2 (classes 3 and 4) pupils are expected to take responsibility for all letters and your replies.

Medical Conditions

If your child has a condition which requires any type of support or medication you must inform school in writing. Please complete a form, which is available from Mrs Park, detailing the exact nature of the condition and the prescribed intervention and or treatment. If your child requires a specific treatment your GP will write a care plan informing the school how to respond in an emergency. Every member of staff is trained in first aid. However we cannot provide medical intervention without a care plan from your GP.

Labelling Children's Clothes

Please ensure you child's clothes are labelled. If your child misplaces their clothes they will be unable to identify them if they are unnamed. Please do not ask staff to do this for you

Water Bottles

Please ensure that your child has a water bottle in school every day. Children do not drink squash or juice during the day. They have access to a water filter to fill their bottle if they need to.

Hot Lunches

Mrs Park sends out the order form fortnightly. Please ensure you indicate which meals your child/ren require(s). As your child becomes familiar with the system they should know when and what they are eating. Remind your child that the lunch order is in their bag and make a note of what you have ordered.

Although Mrs Park does remind us when trips and sports fixtures affect lunches do check our term dates and whole school trip dates when ordering. Please do not send lunch orders into school 2-3 days after the requested date as Mrs Park has to process hundreds of lunches.

School Council

We have elections for our school council this term. Candidates from year two upwards campaign and are elected by the whole school. Once in place the school council take responsibility for a variety of events throughout the year.

Forest School

Much Marcle is a Forest School and we have a number of trained staff who are qualified to lead educational activities outdoors. We are very fortunate to have an excellent relationship with Hellens House and we are able to use their woodlands for our Forest School work.

Every child will require suitable all weather clothing for their FS activities. Like PE, swimming and Mathematics, Forest School is part of our curriculum. If your child is well enough to be in school they are expected to participate.

You will receive further information from your child's class teacher when they are having their FS sessions.

House Events

Our House events last year were very successful for the children and the staff. This year we have decided to run at least one House Event each term.

'Big Apple' Bake Off 9th October

Each House will make an 'apple surprise' which will be judged by a 'panel of foodies'. More details to follow.

Further events may be planned by our newly elected school council or House Captains.

Fund Raising events

The children really enjoy our charity fund raising events and for that reason we try to support a variety of charities.

Macmillan Coffee Morning 2nd October

We are pleased to once again be able to support this very worthwhile charity and we look forward to seeing as many people as possible in school. As always we appreciate the generosity of all our families who provide wonderful cakes. Further details to follow.

Reports on your Child's Progress

You will receive 3 reports each year towards the end of each term. The Autumn and Spring reports are a summary of your child's effort and attainment in Literacy Numeracy and Science

The summer report is the longer report which will inform you about your child's progress and effort in each subject.

The Foundation Stage report describes your child's progress against the Early Learning goals

Staff availability

Your child's teacher will bring them out at the end of each day. They are available at that time if you wish to speak to them.

It is always best to share a concern before it builds and it is better to speak to the class teacher first.

If it is important and you need to speak in private, or you need more time they will see you, if they can or they will make an appointment, if that is more appropriate.

Should you wish to make an appointment to see a member of staff you can do so by telephoning Mrs Park.

Class One Parents Meeting 23rd September

Miss Evans will meet with reception children's parents during the afternoon to explain our phonics system and the general routines of class one.

Parents' Evening 11th February 3.30pm-6.00pm

This is our formal evening when staff meet with the parents of every child in their class.

Mrs Park will send out a letter offering a choice of times. Parents should indicate their preference and return the slips to school promptly. This ensures we can give you the time you request.

If you do not return your slip or are late doing so, you will be allocated an available slot.

Key Stage Two Choir

Children who have an interest in singing will be invited to join the choir. Practices take place during break times and commitment is expected. When we enter a competition, if numbers are limited auditions will take place.

Football Club

KS2 football will take place on Thursdays until 4.15pm as usual. KS2 children are expected to attend all sessions when they sign up.

Netball Club

After school netball for boys and girls will run on Thursdays until 4.15pm as usual. Places are limited - kit and commitment required!

Teams

If your child is selected to represent the school their kit will be provided, we ask that you wash and return it to school promptly please.

Church Services

We have at least 4 Services in St Bartholomew's Church during the year. These Services are important to the children as they all perform a song or poem with their class. All of our services are well attended by parents, carers and extended family members.

Parents come back to school on these occasions to see their child's work through displays and books and to speak informally with staff.

Harvest Festival 8th October 2.00pm

Parents are asked to provide one item of food (tinned or packet as they last longer) which their child will carry from school to the church. Our gifts are presented during the service and they are then donated to a local charity. Recently this has been the Women's Refuge in Hereford or the Ledbury Food Bank.

This service is very well attended and every parent/grandparent takes the opportunity to come back to school to see their child's work.

School visit to the pantomime 15th December

This year we will be going to the theatre at Malvern to see their production of Peter Pan. An estimate of the cost will be £15 per child. This final figure will be available when we have a confirmed amount for the coaches.

Carol Service 16th December 6.00pm

The Carol Service is a very enjoyable start to the Christmas festivities. The children in KS1 (classes 1 and 2) perform a nativity and the school and congregation sing traditional Christmas carols. Parents donate mince pies which are enjoyed by everyone after the service.

Parents remain in church to socialise. We do not go back to school on this occasion.

2016

Hereford Music Festival March (TBC)

For the last 2-3 years our choir and musicians have competed in the Hereford Music Festival. This year once again we hope to enter both the choir and individuals, depending upon categories. Transport may be provided by parents or school depending upon the timing of events and the number of participants. Dates and times will be confirmed next term.

Easter Service 24th March 2.00pm

Every class performs a song or poem. We celebrate the season and recognise the work of the school. Everyone is welcomed back to school to speak with staff and to see their children's work.

Year Six London Residential May 2016

The great London adventure! We have visited London with year six children for the last 4 years. This is a very special event for children and staff. We have had the privilege of accompanying children who have not been to the capital before and we have been trusted to care for children who have not stayed away from family before. To quote one parent 'I sent my little girl to London and she came back grown up and ready for secondary school'. It really is a great London adventure.

Sports Day 17th June (Option 1) 24th June (Option 2)

We allocate two dates for the children's favourite event to avoid disappointment because of the weather. **We always aim for the first date.** Sports Day takes place in the morning. The children sit in houses and compete for their house.

There are a number of events of varying difficulty. Every child is expected to take part and to do their absolute best. We encourage everyone and applaud their tremendous efforts.

After the sporting events every child sits with their family to enjoy a picnic lunch. Families stay together on the field until registration at 1.15pm when parents then take their children home.

Summer Play 12th July (1.30pm and 6.00pm) 13th July (6.00pm)

Our end of year play is always a great success. Everyone looks forward to knowing the title of the play and to learning the songs and their part. Everybody from Reception to Year 6 has a part which often includes a dance!

The play is performed on one afternoon for pre school children, parents and grandparents. The two evening performances are for adults only. Please do not bring children under 5 to these performances. This year the matinee and the evening performance are on the same day.

Tickets usually cost about £3.00 to help with the cost of production.

End of Year Celebration 19th July 2.00pm

During this service we celebrate the achievements of the children in Year 6 and wish them well for the next stage in their education. Every child will sing with their class. Our musicians and the choir performs too.

All those children who have achieved 100% attendance for the year will be presented with their certificates.

Every family is invited to this service and they come back to school to see their child's work through the displays around school and to thank staff for all they have done for the children throughout the year.

The purpose of this calendar is to inform new parents and remind our seasoned parents of all the events we intend to do. As you can see we have a very busy year planned.

These details are accurate at this time but may be subject to change.