

St. Herbert's R C Primary School

Summer Term

8th July 2022



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the end of the school year, I would like to thank everybody for their ongoing support. We have had several visitors to our school recently including the Bishop and Director of Education, and the comments every time start with what lovely children we have and how they are a credit to the school and their families.

Notices to take us to the end of term (I apologise for the length of the newsletter, a lot has happened over the past few weeks!):

School Uniform

Parents will now be planning for September; Monkhouse in Oldham supply our school jumpers and ties. You can book an appointment online via the website (link below). I would recommend you go early as there were problems with stock last year. They have appointments available over the next few weeks to go in and order school uniform.

<https://www.monkhouse.com>

Mrs Collins does have a uniform rail now (donations gratefully received), as well as a pantry (she will be wanting her own building shortly!!!). If anybody needs support with jumpers, ties etc please see Mrs Collins - we will do everything we can to help you.

Foodbank Friday

Thank you for all your donations; we have managed to provide food, toiletries etc to many families. We are now planning for winter, and fuel increases, so we will be sourcing blankets, bedding, quilts etc in the Autumn. You are always so generous, and this is one of the many things that makes our school so special.

School Dinners

Unfortunately, as everything increases, so do school dinners. From Sept 2022 they will increase from £2.60 to £2.70; the costs of school dinners are directed by Oldham Catering. If you are eligible for FSM, and need support completing paperwork etc, please see the office and they will assist you as much as possible.

Commemorative Platinum Jubilee books

Every school aged child (Rec to Yr 6) will receive a book in commemoration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, provided on behalf of the Queen. This week we have had a lovely shipment, and they will be distributed next week.

Sport's Morning update Tuesday 12th July

For many years, pre-COVID, we held our Sport's events in the morning; this is to try to avoid extreme weather (heat in particular). Next week is due to be very hot. Please can you ensure your child has a bottle of water, hat and suncream already applied. Parents are invited to join us on the school field, but we ask you to work with us ensuring the safety and enjoyment of all children. If you are attending, please can you bring a camping chair, refreshments (no alcohol please) and if needed some shade (umbrella/parasol!) - we will seat the children down the right hand side of the field under the trees, but that means the 'audience' have to be seated in the middle of the field facing the trees. This has always worked well in the past.

Can we also ask that you stay behind the 'line', and if any children are upset/need assistance the staff will support them, and if we need you, we will come for you; for organisational and safeguarding purposes and to keep all pupils safe and contained, we cannot have parents going to children.

EYFS and Key Stage One children from 9:30 - 10:15.

Key Stage Two children from 10:30 - 12:00.

You are welcome to take photographs of your child/ren but due to safeguarding, these pictures must not be shared on social media. We look forward to a fun, sporty morning!

Pupil Reports and SAT results Thursday 14th July

Pupil reports are issued next Thursday 14th July. In line with previous years, the reports will also contain their class allocation for next year, and any official examination results (Yr 2 SATS, Yr 6 SATS, Phonics screening results, Yr 4 multiplication test).

I am extremely proud of the pupils' progress this year; pupils and staff have worked extremely hard to 'close the gaps in their learning' as a result of two years disrupted learning. They have achieved very well across the whole school,

and this is a direct result of engagement in online learning during the pandemic, and the hard work of pupils, staff and parents since. Thank you!

As you are aware, children are allocated their class on date of birth - whilst some children may move classes away from friends they have made this year, they always make new ones, and play in the playgrounds with a larger group of friends. This is the only fair way of allocating pupils in a mixed year group school. Thank you for your support in this area.

Transition afternoon Friday 15th July

On Friday afternoon, the pupils will spend time with their new class, in preparation for September. It is lovely to be able to get back to routines that were in place previously!

Most of the new staff are able to join us Friday afternoon, however there are a couple who have not been able to be released from their current positions (they do not officially start until 1st Sept).

Staffing for September:

Nursery: Miss Downham-Clarke (new teacher)

Reception: Mrs Roddy & Mrs Ellor

Class 2: Mrs Whatmough

Class 3: Mrs Lovell

Class 4: Miss Ratcliffe (new teacher) (Mr J Russell (DHT) will have this class on Friday afternoon; Miss Ratcliffe is coming to visit her class on the 21st July)

Class 5: Mrs Aspden

Class 6: Miss Bailey (to become Mrs Kendrick on the 29th July!!)

Class 7: Miss Brilliant

Class 8: Miss Jones

Class 9: Mr A Russell

Class 10: Miss Clough

Mr J Russell (DHT) will not be allocated to a specific class next year, but able to support throughout the school.

Miss Chadderton will remain on maternity leave until December 2022.

Miss Russell, Miss Senior and Miss Horan are moving to pastures new, in Miss Russell's case she is moving to the Netherlands!! We thank them for their hard work and wish them well for the future; we also thank our supply staff Miss Eastwood and Miss Dunn for all their work too.

We welcome Miss Downham-Clarke, Miss Ratcliffe, and Miss Aldred and Ms Gaspar who will be supporting in KS1. A big welcome also to Mrs Quinn and Mrs Ashton who commenced employment a couple of weeks ago supporting specific children in our school.

This year, it seems we have had a lot of change, however we do have 50 members of staff working in our school now. Thank you to them all; they are all dedicated to providing the very best for our children.

School Hall

In Sept 2020, the school had its 3 year fire risk assessment. As part of the report they stated that the hall could not be used for large gatherings, capacity was restricted, until another fire door was provided. At this time, it was not a problem as we were in the middle of the pandemic, and only bubbles could gather. When restrictions began to ease at Christmas and even further at Easter, this still was not a problem as no events were held where the whole school families were invited eg: Macmillan, Harvest, etc (Nativities are in phases/bubbles anyway).

This situation is going to be rectified, as we have just been granted a new entrance which will be located in between the hall fire doors and the kitchen, and this will provide an entrance (fire door) into the hall. This work is likely to commence around Feb/Easter 2023, however we are in the early stages of design, tenders and planning; I will keep you informed as the project progresses. For the meantime, we have to limit numbers over the next few months at certain events. Thank you for your support with this.

Yr 6 Leaver's Mass

The Yr 6 pupils will celebrate Mass at Church on Wednesday 20th July at 10:00am.

Prizegiving & Leaver's Assembly

As explained above, we have to limit numbers to our Prize giving (21st July 9:30am) and Yr 6 Leaver's assembly (22nd July 9:15am) this year. Please can we ask that only Yr 6 families attend, and that we restrict this to two adults from one Yr 6 family attending each of the events, as the whole school will be in the hall. We can accommodate this number just, with the studio doors open.

Middleton Road/Broadway junction

You have probably noticed yellow road signs appearing on Middleton Road and Broadway. Highways have informed us that they are carrying out major roadworks on this junction, to improve pedestrian access and traffic flow, and will commence on Monday 25th July, to take advantage of the Summer Holidays and try to decrease the amount of disruption. They have stated that they will send me a flyer to explain the works that are planned - as soon as I receive this, I will email it to you all. The work is due to take 3 months, so we will have disruption in September - please can I ask that we leave plenty of time to get to school; they promise me that we will still be able to access the Parish Centre and Cemetery for parking.

And again, please can we park at the designated areas and not on Middleton Road or Edward St. Please remain patient, and let us remember that we have children with us at all times (we have had reports that some parents have not been very polite with each other).

And finally, a huge congratulations in advance to Mr J Russell (DHT) and Miss Bailey who are getting married to their partners in the Summer. We send them our best wishes for a wonderful day, and we look forward to seeing the photographs after the holiday!

We finish for our Summer Holidays on Friday 22nd July at 1:30pm, and re-open for the new academic year on Monday 5th September 8:50am (Tuesday 6th September for Reception pupils who attend our school nursery).

Have a lovely Summer, and thank you for your ongoing support and best wishes,

Kind Regards

Mrs S J Milligan

Twitter: @mrs_smilligan