



Newsletter - 7th September 2023

Welcome back!

We hope that you all had a lovely, restful holiday and have spent some quality family time together creating memories.

It has been lovely to see so many happy, smiling faces returning to school this week. We are also incredibly proud of our new Reception Pupils who have settled in so well.

This is just a quick newsletter this week to get everyone back up to speed at the start of the term.

Diary Dates



Please see below some of the key diary dates for this term as it stands right now. Please be aware that these are subject to change, but that we will notify you if this is the case. We will also keep the school website up to date:

www.sytchampton.worcs.sch.uk

Whilst the new build is still underway, we will not be in a position to invite parents in for Celebration Assemblies and will be conducting these in school with the children via remote links. As soon as we are able to use the hall again, we will let you know and invite parents back in. We are hopeful that the new build will be complete before Christmas and that we will be able to stage our Key Stage 1/Early Years Nativity and our Key Stage 2 Carol Service, so we have pencilled in dates for these.

Autumn Term 2023

Monday 4th Sept/Tuesday 5th Sept	TED Days (School Closed to pupils)
Wednesday 6th Sept	School Open to All Pupils EYFS (Brambles) in school until 11.30am
Monday 11th Sept	EYFS (Brambles) in school until 12.45pm
Wednesday 13th Sept	New IPM Targets set and shared with SEND families (Provision Map)
Wednesday 13th Sept	Elm Class Black Country Museum Trip
Thursday 14th Sept	EYFS (Brambles) in school full time
Friday 15th Sept	Celebration Assembly (No parents)
w/c Monday 18th Sept	School Council/Wellbeing Champions Elections
Friday 22nd Sept	Barnabee Tea Parent Newsletter 9.00am SEND Parent Forum
Monday 25th Sept	Commando Joes Activity Day
Wednesday 27th Sept	Swimming Lessons Start (Willow Class)
Friday 29th Sept	Celebration Assembly (No parents) MacMillan Coffee Morning
Monday 2nd Oct	Harvest Donations Week
Friday 6th Oct	Barnabee Tea Parent Newsletter
Tuesday 10th Oct	World Mental Health Day
Wednesday 11th Oct	Whole School Flu Vaccinations
Friday 13th Oct	Harvest Assembly/Celebration Assembly (Arrangements tbc)
Monday 16th Oct	Parent Survey
Wednesday 18th Oct	09.00-10.30am Prospective EYFS Parents Open Morning
Friday 20th Oct	Barnabee Tea Parent Newsletter
Monday 30th Oct – Friday 3rd Nov	HALF TERM
	New Building Opening Ceremony (Dates tba)
Thursday 9th Nov	14.00 Parent Voice Meeting
Friday 10th Nov	14.45 Celebration/Remembrance Assembly (Arrangements tbc)
w/c Monday 11th Nov	Anti-Bullying Week
Friday 17th Nov	Barnabee Tea Parent Newsletter 09.00 SEND Parent Coffee Morning Children In Need
Wednesday 22nd Nov	15.00-18.00 Parent Consultations (Face To Face) All Year Groups
Thursday 23rd Nov	15.00 – 17.00 Parent Consultation (Face To Face) All Year Groups
Friday 24th Nov	14.45 Celebration Assembly (Arrangements tbc)
Tuesday 28th Nov	09.00 – 10.30am Prospective EYFS Parents Open Morning
Wednesday 29th Nov	New IPM Targets set and shared with SEND families (Provision Map)
Friday 1st Dec	Barnabee Tea Parent Newsletter
w/c 4th Dec	Assessment Week Rags To Riches Textile Collection
Weds 6th Dec	Willow Last Swimming Lesson
Friday 8th Dec	14.45 Celebration Assembly (Arrangements tbc)
Monday 11th Dec	EYFS/KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal to School (tbc)
Tuesday 12th Dec	EYFS/KS1 Nativity to Families (tbc)
Wednesday 13th Dec	Whole School Pantomime Trip (Jack and The Beanstalk)
Friday 15th Dec	Barnabee Tea

Autumn Term 2023

	Parent Newsletter
Wednesday 20th Dec	Christmas Lunches Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 22nd Dec	Christmas Parties and Special Visitor 13.30 – 14.30 KS2 Carol Concert (tbc) 14.30 School Closes for Christmas (No WAC)

New Build



Over the Summer, the builders have completed the roof work on the new build, including the guttering, and insulating the loft. The scaffolding has been taken down and the internal ceilings have been put into place. The build is still on track for completion by the start of the November as long as there are no supply issues. There has been a delay on the delivery of the windows and doors due to an issue at the suppliers' end which has limited the work that can be done over the past few weeks. However, the floors have now been prepared for the screed to be delivered and electricians have been in planning where power sockets will be placed. We have had a site meeting and discussed how the area around the outside of the building will be landscaped and we have decided upon paint colours and colours for the children's toilets!

The building is really beginning to take shape now and is looking fantastic. Given the recent controversy over RAAC concrete, we are extremely relieved that we secured the funding for this build, as it is likely that RAAC issues would have taken precedent if we had applied now!

Please be mindful, that it will be less obvious what work is being done from now on. The building team have been working really hard inside the building and this is where the majority of work going forward will take shape. The team have been so helpful and supportive throughout the build, including helping us fix things inside the main building! So if you do happen to see them, please consider thanking them.





Forest School



Over the past year, Miss Hothi has completed a Forest School Leader course which means that we are now able to lead Forest School Sessions for all year groups! We are planning for every year group to take part in Forest School lessons in blocks throughout the year. Brambles Class will continue to take part in Forest School every Wednesday. All other year groups will be allocated a half-term block to take part in Forest School Lessons on a Friday afternoon. Miss Hothi will send out letters to the relevant year groups at the start of each Term. In the Autumn Term, Year 3 will take part during the first half term, followed by Year 4 in the second half term.

Mrs Mary Mason



It is with huge sadness, that we would like to inform you of the death of Mrs Mary Mason, who has worked as a cleaner at our school for over twenty years. She passed away over the Summer, following a short illness, but had worked at the school until she was signed off sick in the Summer Term. Mary was an incredibly kind and caring lady, who loved working at the school and adored the children. She will be sorely missed. Her funeral was held on 7th September and members of staff attended as representatives of the school.

In order to commemorate Mary's long and loyal service to the school, the PTA have offered to buy a brick for the new build and we plan to plant a tree in the new Sensory Garden behind the new building once the building work is complete.

We send our deepest condolences to Mary's family and friends.

New Staff



Those of you with a keen sense of observation, will have noticed a few new faces around the school this week! As well as the new children in Reception, we have welcomed some new members of staff and students into our lovely team. They are as follows:

Miss Lucy Ballard



Miss Ballard is supporting pupils with SEND in Brambles Class. She has previous experience working with and supporting pupils with additional needs in other settings, including Ombersley First School. Miss Ballard may also be better known to some of you as a Brownies and Rainbows leader!

Miss Emma Good



Miss Good has previously worked in a Special School in Liverpool and would like to train as an Educational Psychologist one day! She has recently returned from travelling and teaching in Thailand and will be supporting SEND pupils in Oak Class.

Miss Lilly Evans



Miss Evans may already be familiar to some of you as she completed her training as a Teaching Assistant with us last year. Miss Evans will be working in Willow Class supporting pupils with SEND.

Other Staff News!

We are very excited to inform you, that Mr Webster is due to become a dad for the first time! His partner is expecting their first baby at the start of October. He is planning on taking a couple of weeks Paternity Leave, for which we have plans in place.

Change of Details



Mrs Bishop is asking any parents/families/carers who have moved address or changed their contact details (mobile phones/email address) to inform her as soon as possible so that we can ensure that all of our records are up to date. This is particularly important in case of any emergencies.

Thank you!

Uniform/Presentation



We have been delighted to see so many children returning to school looking so smart in their uniforms. We would like to say a huge thank you to parents and carers for ensuring that their children attend school in the appropriate clothing and footwear, particularly when money is so tight at the moment. Don't forget that the PTA do stock some pre-loved uniform so please contact them if you need anything.

Could we please ask that girls with long hair wear their hair tied back, as we have noticed a few with hair being left loose. This is to prevent any accidents when using equipment in school, but also to prevent the transmission of any unwanted hair lice! Similarly, please be reminded that jewellery should not be worn in school, with the exception of pupils with pierced ears who may wear small studs. Once again, this is for safety reasons, particularly when children are playing or taking part in PE. If your child does wear earrings and is not able to remove them for PE lessons, please either ensure that they do not wear them to school on that day, or that you send in some micropore tape to cover the earrings whilst taking part in PE.

Thank you for your understanding and support.