



SYTCHAMPTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

September 2024

Message from Mrs Brogan

Dear Parents and Families,

A very warm welcome back to all of our children and families and a special welcome to our new pupils and their families. As we move into the Autumn Term, we have lots to look forward to. It has been lovely to see everyone arriving back in their smart uniforms, and settling into their learning with enthusiasm. We are also welcoming some new members of staff to the team. This newsletter has lots of information about the new term and some really important messages, so please do read it and come back to us with any queries. I look forward to working with you all, and building on the fantastic school community that exists here at Sytchampton. Please do come and say 'hello' on the playground, and if there is anything that you need to discuss, please contact the school office to make an appointment.

Best Wishes

Catherine Brogan.

A colorful, stylized graphic that says "WELCOME BACK". The word "WELCOME" is in large, bold, multi-colored letters (red, yellow, blue, red) with a black outline and a dotted shadow effect. Below it, the word "BACK" is in similar large, bold, multi-colored letters (green, blue, yellow) with a black outline and a dotted shadow effect.

Welcome to Brambles Class! Our new reception children have settled in really well. Children will be in Brambles class from 8.45 – 12.45 next week until starting full time on Thursday.



Staffing

We are so privileged here at Sytchampton to have a highly skilled and dedicated staff. Every one of our team members is committed to providing the best possible education to all of our children. We are delighted to welcome **Miss Unitt, Mrs Drysdale and Miss Ivan** to our staff team.

Teaching Staff

Mrs Jane Fairlamb	Reception Teacher (Brambles)
Miss Danielle Field	Key Stage 1 Teacher (Oak) Monday - Wednesday
Mrs Deanna Robbins	Key Stage 1 Teacher (Oak) Wednesday - Friday
Miss Abigail Unitt	Lower Key Stage 2 Teacher (Willow)
Mrs Elizabeth Oliver	Upper Key Stage 2 Teacher (Elm) Monday - Tuesday
Miss Alexa Waring	Upper Key Stage 2 Teacher (Elm) Wednesday - Friday
Mrs Anna Martin	Peripatetic Music Teacher

Classroom Support Staff

Our classroom support staff work in various roles across the school at different times and offer invaluable support to individuals, groups and whole classes.

Mrs Jo Corbett	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Kate Drysdale	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Raluca Ivan	Teaching Assistant
Miss Xiola Johnson	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Jane Kadyntseva (Miss Jane)	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Tracey Lewis	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Zeenat Monzur	Higher Level Teaching Assistant
Miss Abbie Morgan	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Mary Steele	Teaching Assistant

Lunchtime and Wrap Around Staff

Mrs Tracey Rawlings	Lunchtime Supervisor and Wrap Around Care Supervisor
Mrs Mary Steele	Lunchtime Supervisor
Mrs Jackie Wright	Lunchtime Supervisor
Mrs Carol Pugh	Site Manager and Wrap Around Care Supervisor

Business and Site Staff

Mrs Jenny Bishop	School Business Manager and Front Office
Mrs Jane Lawson	Clerical/Finance Assistant and Clerk to Governors
Mrs Carol Pugh	Site Manager
Mrs Sharon Maiden	Cleaner (contracted via Lewis Cleansing Ltd)

Mrs Oliver is continuing as our **SENCo** while Mrs Lawson is on maternity leave. She will be supporting staff in making provision for children with additional needs and communicating with parents. Mrs Oliver is out of class on a Wednesday for this role. Please contact her through the school office if you have any queries or concerns.

Celebrating success

We want to make sure that children's efforts, perseverance and success at school are recognised and shared. This happens on a daily basis within classes and in the interactions between children and adults, but there will be some specific celebrations too.

Celebration Assemblies

We will be having a weekly celebration assembly where children's successes in school will be celebrated. Each class will have a 'Star of the Week' whose efforts and achievements have been particularly noticed. Through this we want to encourage children to recognise others' efforts and successes as well as their own. These assemblies will also be an opportunity to celebrate birthdays, great attendance and achievements in reading, spelling and maths.



Every month parents will be invited to share in our Celebration Assembly. This will take place on the last Friday of the month at 2.30. (see the 'Dates for your Diary' list). The 'stars' of that month will also have a celebration tea with Mrs Brogan.

House Points

We want to develop the identity around our school houses and encourage children to work together towards a common goal. Children will be awarded house points in class and around school for demonstrating our school values, showing resilience, working hard and having great learning behaviours. Houses will meet each week to celebrate this, and the house point totals will be shared in celebration assemblies.

Intrinsic Motivation

While teachers will be rewarding children with praise, house points, certificates, stickers etc, we also want to develop our children's intrinsic motivation – that sense of doing something for the joy of achieving it, for the pleasure of helping someone else, for the knowledge and skills it will develop or just because it is a thing that needs doing!

Wrap Around Care

We have some spaces in our WAC club which runs before and after school.

Breakfast Club runs from 8.00am until 8.45am in the hall and children are given a breakfast of toast, cereal and fruit. Milk or juice is available.

After school, children can stay until 4.15pm or stay and have tea, being collected by 5.30pm Monday-Thursday and 5.00pm Friday.

We prefer that sessions are booked in advance on a half termly basis (using booking link sent via Dojo/text message) but ad-hoc sessions are usually available if you need any extra sessions.

Club Charges for pre-booked sessions (activity clubs cost £1 per session extra)

Session	Cost
Breakfast Club	£4.50
3.15 to 4.15pm	£5.00
3.15 to 5.30pm (Mon to Thu)	£10.50
3.15 to 5.00pm (Fri)	£9.50

Please ask in the school office for more information or see our [website](#).

Communications

School to Home

We have a range of ways of sharing information with parents to ensure that you know what is happening in school and giving an insight into your child's learning. Look out for:

School Newsletter

This newsletter will provide whole school information, celebrations and other information relevant to our families and will be sent on the **first Friday of the month**.

Curriculum Newsletters

Class teachers will create a newsletter each half term to inform parents about what children will be learning. This will also include some key vocabulary that will be useful for the children in their learning.

Class Dojo

Please sign up to class Dojo to receive announcements and reminders about what is going on in school and in your child's class. If you need help to use Class Dojo, please speak to the school office.

Parent Consultations

Our Autumn and Spring Term parent consultations are a chance for a focused conversation with your child's teacher about their progress in school. The Autumn term consultation will take place week commencing 11th November and information about making appointments will be sent out in due course. Teachers may also request additional meetings, if this is appropriate, to discuss specific issues or needs.

School Website

There is a wealth of information on the school website from uniform and school dinners to curriculum to family support information.

Annual School Report

At the end of the year teachers prepare a report to parents about their child's achievements and progress in school. This is also where Statutory Assessments are reported.

Home to School

It is important that teachers know about what is happening for children that may affect their learning and wellbeing, so please keep us informed. You are welcome to discuss any concerns and ask any questions that you may have. There are a number of ways in which to do this, which will ensure that messages don't get missed and that teachers can focus on teaching and learning during their day.

Teachers are available at the classroom door at the beginning and end of the day for quick messages. Please only use the beginning of the day for anything urgent and quick, as teachers need to be in the classroom ready to start the day with the children. **Mrs Brogan** will also often be on the playground for quick discussions.

You can bring **messages to the school office** at any time, or **telephone or email** the school office and these messages will always be passed on.

For longer discussions you are welcome to **make an appointment** with the class teacher or Mrs Brogan through the school office.

We hope that this provides plenty of avenues for effective communications and that parents continue to feel welcome to communicate with us. We ask that parents no longer use other channels such as Dojo or Provision Map to message teachers directly, as this can become unmanageable and messages may get missed.



Attendance & Punctuality

School Day timings

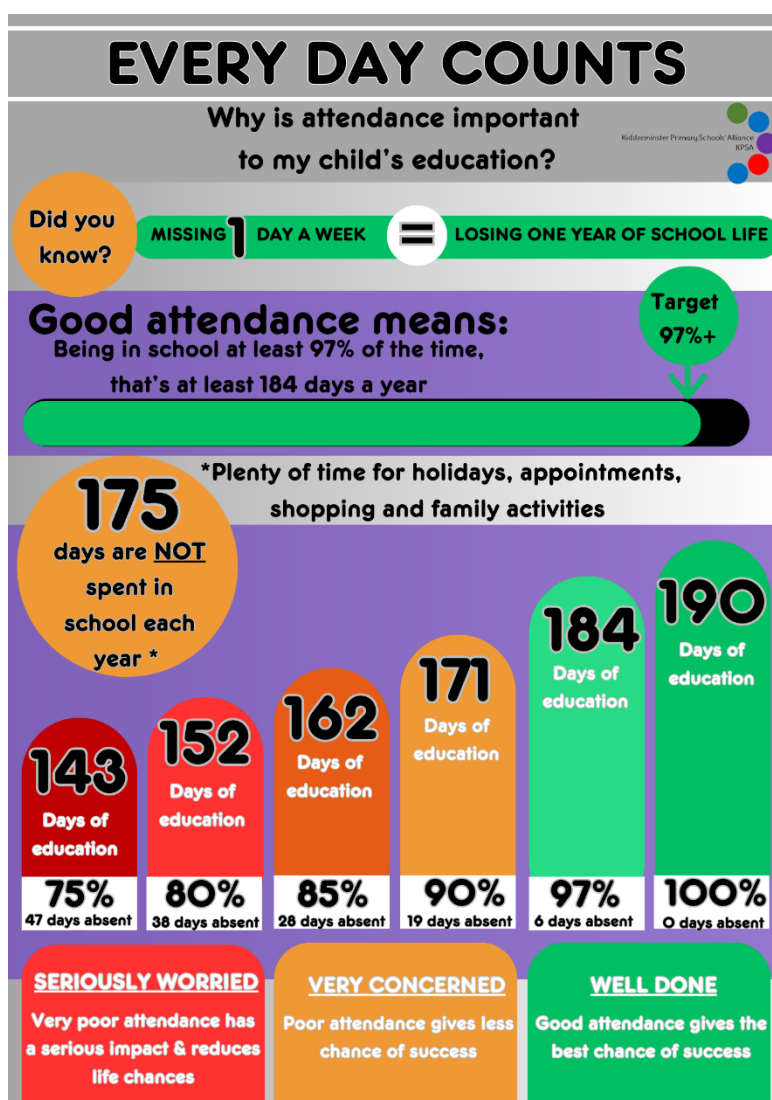
8.45am - 12.15pm Morning School

12.15pm – 1.15pm Lunch

1.15pm – 3.15pm Afternoon School



To ensure a timely start to the school day and that children make the most of their learning time, all children should be at their classroom door **no later than 8:45 am** please.



School Attendance

It is really important for children academically and socially that they are in school every day. Our teachers work hard to ensure that every school day is valuable. If there are circumstances that are creating barriers to good attendance, please come and talk to Mrs Brogan, so that help and support can be accessed.

We monitor attendance closely and will notify parents, initially in writing, if there is a concern. If it appears that a child is at risk of persistent absence (90% attendance or less) parents will be invited for a meeting to discuss attendance.

Please make sure that your child is in school every day unless significant illness prevents it. There is useful guidance here [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk) Medical and other appointments should be made outside of the school day wherever possible.

Term Time Holidays are not permitted

- Taking children on holiday or out of school during term time is against the law.
- The school is not allowed to authorise absence during term time
- Taking unauthorised holidays could result in a penalty notice from the Local Authority.
- The agreed term dates are here for your information

Term dates 2024 - 2025

	Holidays - School closes to pupils on	School re-opens to pupils on
Autumn Term		Wednesday 4th September 2024
Autumn mid term	Friday 25th October 2024	Monday 4th November 2024
Christmas	Friday 20th December 2024	Tuesday 7th January 2025
Spring mid-term	Friday 14th February 2025	Monday 24th February 2025
Easter	Friday 11th April 2025	Monday 28th April 2025
Summer mid-term	Friday 23rd May 2025	Tuesday 3rd June 2025
End of summer term	Friday 18th July 2025	

Christmas Day	Wednesday 25 th December 2024
Boxing Day	Thursday 26 th December 2024
New Year's Day	Wednesday 1 st January 2025
Good Friday	Friday 18 th April 2025
Easter Monday	Monday 21 st April 2025
May Day	Monday 5 th May 2025
Spring Bank Holiday	Monday 26 th May 2025

PTA

We have a very active PTA who really bring a lot to the school and develop our sense of community. The PTA AGM is on Thursday 3rd October at 5.30pm at school and it would be great to see some new faces there. You can contact the PTA through their **new email address sytechpta@outlook.com** The

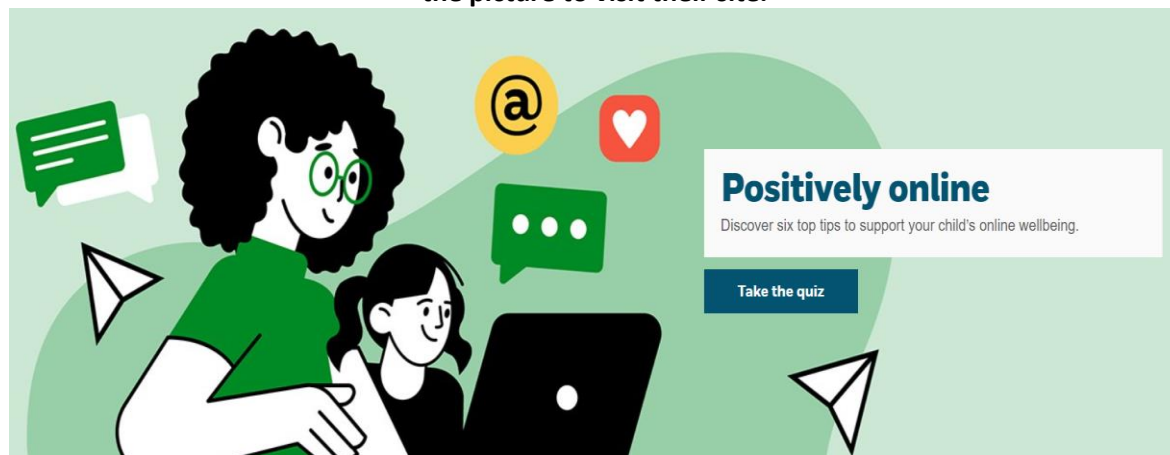
PTA will also be having a Logo Competition inviting all children to design a logo for the PTA. There will be a prize for the design that is chosen.

Full details will be in the PTA newsletter and templates for the logo will be issued next week.

Look out for their newsletter coming soon and get involved!

Online Safety Feature

The NSPCC's Positively Online resources support healthy use of online devices for families. Click the picture to visit their site.



We believe that going online should be a positive experience for all children.

But the internet can be a difficult place for them to navigate. It can be hard to know the real from the fake, how to avoid seeing negative content, or what to do if a mistake is made. That's why we've launched our positive online habits – six top tips to help your child feel good about how they use the internet.

They can help you start a conversation with your family about online wellbeing. So you can all feel informed, confident and happy during your time online.

High School Transition

If your child is due to leave us at the end of year 6 this year, please make sure that you begin the High School Application Process now. Year 6 parents have been sent information about this.

Nasal Flu vaccinations

The vaccination team will be visiting school on November 7th. It is really important that Vaccination UK receive a consent form back for every child, even if you do NOT wish for your child to receive the immunisation, there is an option to decline. Failure to complete a consent form, may result in your child missing their flu immunisation this year. Please complete the below link to state whether you wish to consent or decline. <https://midlands.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2024/worcestershire>

It is important that all consents are completed no later than 1 week prior to the school session, links will not be accessible after this time. Clinics are available for children who miss the immunisation at school, please contact the Vaccination team on 01527 390030 to find out more.

Lunches, snacks and milk

The lunches from our new lunch provider Red Hen are going down very well! Don't forget that lunches need to be pre-ordered, even if your child receives Free Meals.

Orders should be placed online by Wednesday for the following week. Once you have registered on the Red Hen website they will send you reminders to book.



Children have **free milk up to the age of 5**. If you want your child to continue to receive milk after their 5th birthday, there is a small charge for this. Please speak to the school office.

Children have **snacks at break time** as an energy boost. It is important for learning, concentration and behaviour that these snacks are appropriate. Children in Reception and Key Stage 1 have free fruit. When sending snacks please consider:



- Children have a limited time to eat them and also need some time to play
- Snacks that are high in sugar such as chocolate, sweets and sugary biscuits give a high energy boost, that can be bad for concentration and doesn't last long, leaving children hungry again quickly.
- Fruit, vegetables and protein-based snacks such as cheese are a good alternative.

School Site

There is parking available at the Community Centre in Cow Lane for safe access to the school site. The School car park is only available for blue badge holders and we would request that any badge holders able to use the Cow Lane carpark do so, as parking on the school site is very limited.

We do have to pay the Community Centre for the use of this valuable space, so we do ask parents for a contribution of £15 per family per year (less than 40p per week). You will be sent a request for this payment via our School Money system shortly.

We ask that parents leave the school site promptly at drop off and pick up times, so that our school site can be secured.

The gate to Cow Lane will be locked at 3.20pm to allow our After School Club to access the playground safely. If you are meeting with a member of staff or visiting the school office, you will be let out by a member of staff.

Events this term

Parent Information Sessions

We would like to offer you the opportunity to find out more about key areas of learning for your children. During these sessions teachers will share information about how learning is done in school and how you can support the children at home.

- **Phonics and Reading for Reception Parents** (Brambles) 24th September 2.30pm
- **Phonics and Reading for KS1 Parents** (Oak) 2nd October 2.30pm
- **Reading and Times Tables for KS2 Parents** (Willow and Elm) 3rd October 2.30pm

Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival will take place on Tuesday 16th October at 2.30pm. Parents are invited to attend and donations of dried and tinned products for the foodbank will be welcome.



Looking forward to Christmas

We know it is too early to be talking about it, but please save the dates for our KS1 Nativity which will be on the afternoon and evening of Tuesday 10th December and our KS2 Carol Concert which will be on the afternoon of Wednesday 18th December.

Pupil Ambassadors

We want our pupils to be taking an active role in contributing to the wider life of the school and there will be lots of opportunities for children to do this. Mrs Fairlamb will be running our school council who will be responsible for representing their peers and supporting aspects of school life such as wellbeing and environment. Miss Field will be working with pupil leaders supporting sports and active lifestyles.



Gardeners wanted!

We would love to get our children more involved in taking care of the school site and developing their own green fingers. If there is anyone out there with a love of gardening who would like to help our children to do this, please get in touch.

Uniform

We take pride in our appearance and encourage our children look smart in our uniform. At this time of year, the weather is changeable so a summer or winter uniform is appropriate. We ask that pupils wear the following as appropriate:

- Grey trousers, shorts, pinafores or skirts or red and white checked dresses
- Red polo shirt
- Red jumper, cardigan or sweatshirt (no hood)
- Grey, black or white socks
- Black shoes

Pupils in Upper Key Stage 2 wear a navy blazer with the school badge (available from our uniform supplier).

PE Kit

- Red t- shirt
- Black shorts or tracksuit trousers
- School sweatshirt or fleece top
- Black PE pumps (slip on or Velcro for indoors)
- Trainers

Children are requested to come to school wearing their full PE kit on the day of the week that they have PE scheduled in school.

Polo shirts, PE T-shirts, sweatshirts and cardigans with the school logo are available to order from the School Office. However, we do not require all uniform to display the logo. We appreciate that it may be more cost effective to provide your child with unbranded uniform.

Also available are School Coats, Summer Caps, Book and PE bags. Please call into the school office to order uniform.

Please ensure all clothing and property is clearly marked with your child's name.

No jewellery of any kind should be worn except studs for children with pierced ears, and watches.

Long hair should be tied up at all times.

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 4 th September	School Opens to Pupils (Reception part time)
Thursday 12 th September	New reception pupils in school full time
Wednesday 18 th September	Swimming starts for Willow Class
Tuesday 24 th September 2.30	Phonics and Reading for Reception Parents (Brambles)
Friday 27 th September 2.30pm	Celebration Assembly with Parents
Wednesday 2 nd October 2.30pm	Phonics and Reading for KS1 Parents (Oak)
Thursday 3 rd October 2.30pm	Reading and Times Tables for KS2 Parents (Willow and Elm)
Thursday 3 rd October 5.30pm	PTA AGM in school
Wednesday 16 th October	Harvest Festival 2.30pm
Thursday 24 th October	Tempest Photography in school – individual photos (pre-school sibling photos from 8.30am)
Friday 26 th October	Celebration Assembly with Parents 2.30pm
Monday 28 th October – Friday 1 st November	October half term holiday – school closed
Monday 4 th November	School Opens
Thursday 7 th November	Flu nasal vaccinations for all pupils (please complete consent forms online via link on Class Dojo)
Week of 11 th November	Parent Consultations
Friday 29 th November 2.30pm	Celebration Assembly with Parents
Tuesday 10 th December	Nativity Play (Brambles and Oak)
Wednesday 18 th December 2.30pm	Carol Concert (Willow and Elm)
Friday 20 th December	End of term
Monday 23 rd December – Friday 3 rd January 2025	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY – school closed
Monday 6 th January	INSET DAY – school closed to pupils
Tuesday 7 th January	School Opens to Pupils

Good asthma control means having no symptoms

Children and young people with asthma can live their best lives by following these 4 steps:

1. Get an asthma action plan in place
2. Understand how to use inhalers correctly
3. Schedule an asthma review – every year and after every attack
4. Ask about the impact of outdoor and indoor air pollution



Save the date: #AskAboutAsthma returns 9 – 15 September 2024 to raise awareness about childhood asthma.

Scan this QR code or find more information at:
www.transformationpartnersinhealthandcare.nhs.uk/ask-about-asthma

