



Newsletter – September 2022 – Autumn 1

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are looking forward to welcoming the children back to school next week, hearing about the fun things they have done over the summer, watching them catch up with their friends and settling back into the routine of school.

I would like to welcome our new children and their families to both our schools. We are all looking forward to getting to know you over the coming seven years. Welcome also to our new members of staff who have joined us this year.

We will now be returning to a newsletter each half term. At the end of each week you will continue to receive a diary list of the events for the following week. Remember important dates are also included on the calendar on the school website.

Office Staff Hours

If you have a question for the office please contact them by telephone or email so that they can initially deal with your request in that way.

Please email both Mrs Lovett and Mrs Murby with your queries and one of them will get back to you.

Mrs Murby – k.murby@acornfed.derbyshire.sch.uk

Mrs Lovett – mlovett@acornfed.derbyshire.sch.uk

Updating Forms

Over the next few weeks, we will be sending out forms for parents to ensure we have up-to-date information about you and your children. Please complete and return the forms as soon as you can. These will include medical forms, collection forms, permission forms and home-school agreements. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in completing these promptly.

Breakfast and After School Clubs (BC & ASC)

Please make sure you have booked sessions for BC and ASC on the Parent Pay app. Information regarding logging on to Parent Pay was sent to parents prior to the summer holiday. If you are having difficulty logging on please contact Mrs Murby and Mrs Lovett and one of them will get back to you.

Please remember that places need to be booked a week in advance, so that we can ensure we have staff for each session. Thank you.

Attendance

Attendance continues to be important, particularly following the closure of schools last year. We will be closely monitoring attendance and supporting families where pupils have attendance below 90%.

Attending school regularly is key to your child doing well at school and will set them up with good routines for later life and the working world.

95% Attendance – This is the equivalent of having half a day off every other week.

90% Attendance – This is the equivalent of having half a day off every week.

80% Attendance – This is the equivalent of having a day off every week.

When children are unwell, they should not attend school. However, I would ask you to consider if they are too ill to attend school, or if they will perk up once they see their friends. Please remember and adhere to the 48-hour rule. Children must not be in school for 48 hours after their last incident of sickness or diarrhoea.

Any children displaying symptoms of Coronavirus should not attend school (a high temperature or a continuous cough or a loss of taste / smell).

As part of our policy on attendance, if your child's attendance falls below 90% we will inform you by letter.

Free School Meals

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

What does Free School Meals (FSM) mean?

While you remain entitled to receive FSM your child will receive a school meal for free. The funding also gives the pupils Pupil Premium funding. This is £1300 each year which is used by the school to support your child's learning, this can mean 1-to-1 or small group support for interventions, support to pay for school trips, help funding clubs (e.g. after school club).

What do I need to do?

If you think you may be eligible to receive FSM please let Mrs Lovett or Mrs Murby have your full name, date of birth and national insurance number. They can then submit the information to Derbyshire County Council. Any applications will be dealt with in confidence.

Arrival at and Collection from School

Please ensure children arrive promptly for the start of the school day, the gate is open from 8:45am until 8:55am. It is important that children arrive at school by 8:55am so that we can have a settled start to the day. When all children arrive by **8:55am** it allows us to have a settled start to the day and ensures no learning is missed.

As part of our work on attendance, we will continue to monitor prompt arrival at school. Every year it is vital that we make the most of the learning time available to us.

Thank you in advance for supporting us with this.

Absence Procedures

If your child is too unwell to attend school, please contact school by phone before 9.10am and inform us of the reason for their absence and when you expect them to return to school. Thank you.

Holidays

"Family Holidays and Other Absences

Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006, which came into force on 1st September 2013. State that Head teachers may not grant any leave of absence for holidays during the term time unless there are exceptional circumstances; in these cases it is the Head teacher who determines the number of days a child can be away from school if the leave is granted.

Parents needing leave of absence for **exceptional circumstances** should speak to the headteacher as soon as possible and, when possible, at least two weeks before the anticipated start date.

Parents who take their children on holiday without permission will incur an unauthorised absence for their child. These remain on the child's record and will be monitored for further action by the Education Welfare Service."

Derbyshire County Council may issue a fine to parents who take their children out of school for an unauthorised holiday; this can be one day or two weeks.

Medical Conditions

Please inform school if your child has a medical condition and ensure the appropriate medication is in school (e.g. inhalers for asthma). If your child already has medication in school, please ensure it is in date. This information will also need recording on the medical form, which will be sent out over the coming weeks.

Please remember medication may have been taken home before the summer holiday and now needs to be returned to school.

School Policy Documents

Both school websites contain many of our policy documents for you to access. If you require a paper copy or cannot find the policy you are looking for please contact the school office.

Homework

You will receive information about homework from your class teachers. Please make sure you have the homework book at home so that it can be completed and handed in on time. **Any children not completing their homework on time will need to do this during break or lunch time.**

Pencil Cases

The children **do not** need pencil cases when they return to school in September. We will provide all the equipment they need.

Swimming

This academic year, children in the Meadow Class will be swimming at Ashbourne Pool during the Summer term.

Tuck Shop

Tuck Shop will be open on Friday 9th September at both MMPS and LLPS.

The children will be able to buy a cereal bar. Cereal bars will cost 20p each. The Tuck Shop will be run by older children in the Meadow Class. If the children would like to buy a bar



they will need to bring a small purse containing 20p (**we will not be giving change**) on a Monday and Friday.

Secondary Open Evenings

Wednesday 28th September – John Port Spencer Academy for Y5/6

Wednesday 28th September – Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School for Y5/6

Thursday 29th September – Saint Benedict Catholic Academy

When we are made aware of dates for other schools we will share them with you.

PE Kits

This year children will continue to wear their PE kit to school on PE days. Towards the end of last year we had some children coming to school in clothing that was not PE kit, please ensure as we start the new academic year that children are in our Federation PE kit and not other sports clothing. The children will be doing PE on the following days, -

LLPS: Garden Class – Thursday and Friday

LLPS: Meadow Class – Thursday and Friday

MMPS: Garden Class – Thursday and Friday

MMPS: Meadow Class – Tuesday and Thursday

Events in autumn 1 2022 (September and October)

Bike Ability Level 1 for Year 6 (20/09/22, 1pm to 3pm)

Our Year 6 pupils will be able to complete their Level 1 Bikeability award today. They will need a working bike and a helmet. This will take place at MMPS. More information to follow.

Phonics and Grammar Open Morning (28/09/22, 9am to 9:30am)

During this morning parents in the Garden Class will be able to watch a phonics lesson and then class teachers will talk to parents about phonics and how you can help at home.

In the Meadow Class parents will have the opportunity to take part in a grammar lesson.

Closer to the time the children will take home an invite with a slip to complete.

Y3/4 Football QEGS Event (29/09/22)

More information to follow.

MacMillan Coffee (30/09/20)

We are hoping to be able to invite families to join us for our Macmillan Coffee Morning.

At LLPS the coffee morning will be from 9am to 10am.

At MMPS the coffee 'morning' will be from 2:30pm to 3:30pm.

Please watch out for an invite to attend and please send in some cakes for us to sell.

Y5/6 Football QEGS Event (06/10/22)

More information to follow.

EYFS and Y1/2 Football Primary Stars Event (11/10/22)

More information to follow.

INSET Day (21/10/22)

School will be closed today for children.

Half Term Week (24/10/22 to 28/10/22)

School will be closed this week for half term. Children will return to school on Monday 31st October.

Y3/4/5/6 Cross Country QEGS Event (03/11/22)

More information to follow.

Y3/4 Tag Rugby QEGS Event (17/11/22)

More information to follow.

Joint Day: Children in Need (18/11/22)

More information to follow.

EYFS & KS1 Cross-Country Primary Stars Event (22/11/22)

More information to follow.

Y5/6 Hockey QEGS Event (24/11/22)

More information to follow.

Y3/4 Basketball QEGS Event (01/12/22)

More information to follow.

INSET Day (05/12/22)

School will be closed today for children.

Christmas Jumper Day (09/12/22)

Children (and staff) may wear their Christmas Jumpers to school today in return for a donation to Save the Children. If you haven't got a jumper you could add tinsel or baubles to your outfit, alternatively children can wear their own clothes.

Show and Share (09/12/22, 8:45am to 9:05am)

Parents are invited into school today to look at their children's books.

Christmas Activities (w/b 19/12/22)

During this week the children will work together. They will do Christmas crafts, enjoy Christmas dinner and have their Christmas party.

Mrs Bosley's Plan

This is the plan for this half term. Please remember that if you would like to speak to me when I am at the other school, you can contact a member of staff to see if they are able to help or ask staff to contact me so that I can contact you.

w/b	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
05/09/22	MMPS / LLPS	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS
12/09/22	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS
19/09/22	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS
26/09/22	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS
03/10/22	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS
10/10/22	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS
17/10/22	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS
24/10/22	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS	INSET Day

Kind regards
Teresa Bosley
Head Teacher



Marston Montgomery Primary School

Welcome

The staff and I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new children and their families to our school. We are all looking forward to getting to know you. We are also happy to welcome Mrs Anderson who has joined our Marston Montgomery Team. Mrs Anderson will be teaching our Garden Class during the autumn term.

Marston Montgomery – Events in September 2022 and October 2022

Harvest Service (23/09/22, 9:15am)

Please join us in Church today to celebrate the Harvest.

Marston Tots

Marston Tots will take place on a Friday morning from 9:15am until 11:00am. Pre-school children and a parent / carer are welcome to join our Garden Class for the morning.

September – 30th

November – 4th

December – 2nd

Forest School

During Autumn 2 2022 (November and December) our Meadow Class children will participate in a series of six Forest School sessions. The Meadow Class will have their Forest School sessions on a Friday afternoon.

When the children are taking part in Forest School they will need to bring suitable clothing, e.g. wellington boots, raincoats, gloves, hats etc. Forest School sessions happen whatever the weather is like so children MUST be appropriately dressed! Please take clothing home after each session.

Session dates

November – 4th, 11th, 18th*, 25th

*18th November is a Joint Day, children will do Forest School as one big Meadow Class!

December – 2nd, 9th

Parents' Evening

This year parents' evening at MMPS will take place on the following dates, -

Wednesday 19th October 2022 and Thursday 20th October 2022

Closer to the date we will send a letter for you to book your appointment.

Save the Date

Nativity – Thursday 15th December at 6pm

Christingle – Thursday 22nd December at 2pm