

Dear parents and carers,

Today is the final day of term one and I know lots of children (and staff!) are ready for the half-term break next week. A reminder that Monday 30th October is a staff training / INSET day so school re-opens to children on Tuesday 31st October at 8:45am.

We are pleased with how the first term of “The Empowerment Approach” has gone for children and we are starting to see some real successes in the coaching conversations in helping children to recognise and improve the skills they need to be pro-learning and pro-social members of our school and wider community. Please see attached a parent guide to the “Empowerment Approach” including a link to some videos / cartoons which you may wish to watch and discuss at home.

We are delighted to have our new School Council up and running and they have had their first meeting and got some lovely plans and great ideas for the year ahead. Please see the photos of our new School Council in the attached termly round-up.

Yesterday afternoon and today we held our Bartonian awards ceremonies for those children who consistently display all school values, but in particular this term Respect. Again, the photographs of the winners are in the termly round-up.

The children are all now in one of four House Teams across the school: Earth, Wind, Fire and Air. All of the house points for term 1 will be counted up today and the members of the winning house team will have their term 1 reward after the half term holiday!

Thank you to all of the parents and carers who attended parents’ evening meetings this week either in-person or online. We hope you found these useful to hear how your child has settled in this year and the progress they have made already. It was great to have such positive feedback for the Y6 tour guides who helped show parents around the school on Tuesday evening.

School Photos

A reminder that we have the photographers in on Friday 3rd November to take individual and sibling photos of all children. Please ensure all children are in smart school uniform on this day – there will be no PE on this day.

Free School Meals

Nothing has changed with regard to a child eligible for Pupil Premium funding receiving their daily free school lunch. These should be ordered via the Kingswood website. If you think you may be eligible for Pupil Premium / Free School meals, please contact Mrs Rosie Brennan in confidence who can support you to check this. It is quick and simple and we just need your permission and your National Insurance Number.

Punctuality

A reminder that children should be in school, via their classroom door between 8:45 and 8:55am daily – this registration time is important to set children up for a positive day. Doors close promptly at 8:55 for children’s safety. Children who are late should be brought to the office by an adult and signed in with the reason for lateness provided.

Parental expectations

I would like to request some more consideration of the requests and demands some parents place on the school or your child's teacher and ask that you understand that every member of staff here does their very best for every child. We fully understand that, as a parent, your child is your most precious thing and you want to believe everything they tell you about school but sometimes children do not tell the full truth! Please bear in mind that teachers are responsible for up to 30 children in their class and I, as headteacher, am responsible for 450 children and balancing their differing needs alongside running an effective school. Some of the requests for "investigations" and "written reports of minor incidents" we receive, as well as emails at all hours of the day and night are becoming unreasonable, unmanageable and affecting staff well-being, as well as the amount of time all of us can spend on helping the children's learning.

Please consider what you write or how you speak to all staff; we are human too!

Wishing you a lovely half-term break.

Miss Lally

Dates for your diary, up to Christmas:

October:

Tuesday 31st – Start of term

November:

Friday 3rd – Individual and sibling photos in school

Thursday 9th – YR and KS1 PTA Halloween discos

Tuesday 14th @ 9am – Inclusion Tea and Talk

Tuesday 14th @9am – Y1 parents phonics session

Thursday 16th @ 3.30pm - Y3 Art Gallery

Thursday 16th – KS2 PTA Halloween discos

Monday 20th – Pantomime performance in school

Thursday 23rd – Flu immunisations in school

Tuesday 28th @ 1.15pm – Sunflower class clarinet concert

Wednesday 29th – Friday 1st Dec – Scholastic book fair

December:

Saturday 2nd – PTA Christmas Fayre at EBWMC

Tuesday 12th @ 2pm – Scrooge performance

Wednesday 13th @ 9.15am and 2.15pm - EY Nativity performances

Thursday 14th @ 4pm and 6pm – Scrooge performances

Monday 18th 5-6pm - Carols on the playground

Tuesday 19th – Christmas lunch

Wednesday 20th – End of term

A reminder that these school events, including details, are listed on the [diary page](#) of our website.

Details of clubs outside of school, including some half-term activities, can be found on our [community page](#).

Letters home this week:

Y1 phonics session invitation – Y1 only

Clarinet concert invitation – Sunflower class only

Gymnastics club for next term

Cross country competition – Selected pupils only

Weekly reading in school

School holiday fund voucher – Pupils eligible for free school meals only

Planetarium payment reminder – Y5 pupils who haven't yet paid only

Thistle class move – Thistle class only

Holly class move – Holly class only

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory film – Year 4 only

Scrooge songbook – Senior choir only

Bikeability deadline – year 5 only

Clarinet reminder – Sunflower class only

Headlice letter – Sunflower class only

Harvest festival donations reminder

Attachments:

Behaviour bulletin

Termly Roundup

MiniMeMindfulness flyer

Inclusion Tea and Talk invitation